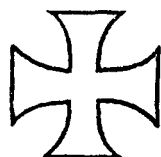


THE PRESENT CHURCH—BUILT IN 1889



*HISTORY*  
OF THE  
HAMPDEN BAPTIST CHURCH  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



PUBLISHED BY  
DIRECTION OF THE CHURCH  
IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

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1924  
THOMAS & EVANS PRINTING COMPANY  
BALTIMORE, MD.



## HISTORY COMMITTEE

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REV. EDWARD TABER





## PREFACE

This book is the story of the fifty years of existence of the Hampden Baptist Church.

Every enterprise, religious or secular, that fulfills a need or performs a service, will sooner or later be successful. The recognition, however, may be long delayed.

The early record of the Hampden church is a record of struggle. A sparsely settled and often indifferent community was not indicative of great possibilities. The church went forward against obstacles. Its history has been a history of progress. There have been discouragements and setbacks, but the general tendency has been toward a bigger and better church.

For the labor of compiling this book much credit is due to Mr. J. H. Suter. His has been a work of devotion and fidelity in gathering and editing the manuscripts, and arranging for the printing. Other members of the committee of which he was chairman also deserve much credit.

It is hoped that this book will be of value and interest to those interested in the Hampden Baptist Church. We believe that the church has many friends in the community in addition to the actual membership, and to all those interested in it, the book tells the story of its progress during the past fifty years.

EDWARD TABER.



## SOME OF THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE BAPTIST WORK IN MARYLAND

The first recorded meeting of the Maryland Baptist Union Association was held in the First Baptist Church in Baltimore, October 27, 1836. Delegates were present from the

First Baptist Church, Baltimore, constituted .....	1785
Calvert Street Church, Balti- more, constituted .....	1835
Pikesville Church, Baltimore County, constituted .....	1835
Gunpowder Church, Baltimore County, constituted .....	1806
Navy Yard Church, Washington, D. C., constituted .....	1810
Taneytown Church, C a r r o l l County, constituted .....	1791

December 16, 1877, members of the Executive Board residing in Washington formed a separate organization subject to the Maryland Baptist Union Association and reported the results of its labors to the Maryland Association. Shortly after this the separation of the District of Columbia churches seems to have been made permanent.

## THE ROCKDALE CHURCH

The first record of any Baptist interest in Hampden or vicinity was the formation of the church called the Rockdale Church, which was situated on part of the ground now occupied by the Hampden Reservoir, probably the southern part of that section. This church was constituted in September, 1849, and reported to the association that it had a comfortable meeting house, but gave no statistics other than those for the Sunday School under the superintendence of Mr. W. H. Hamer and having ten teachers and eighty scholars. Seven of the teachers were reported to be professors of religion, but none of the scholars.

The following year, 1850, they reported having thirty-four members in the church, but sent no letters to the association and gave no other statistics. In 1851 they reported two baptisms and a membership of thirty-six, but no pastor; services every Sunday afternoon, the pulpit being supplied by different ministers from the city. Five Sunday School scholars were converted during this year. In 1852 they reported seven baptisms and ten erasures, leaving a membership of twenty-four. Rev. Thomas Jones, pastor.

1853 they reported four accessions and three lost, leaving a membership of twenty-five. In 1854 they reported a membership of thirty-four. Rev. Levi Thorne, pastor. In 1855 they reported having lost a number of their members by removal and a larger number of their congregation, all in consequence of the burning of two of the factories and the closing of others; the church then disbanded and the remaining members united with other Baptist churches, the meeting house, however, being retained.

## EXTRACT FROM THE LIFE "STORY OF FRANKLIN WILSON"

"At this time (1847) he says 'Began with Brother Wilder to hold services at Woodberry. On two occasions we had large congregations in the woods. It is a noble field, and by the blessing of God I am resolved to prosecute it until we have a Baptist church there.' On April 23, 1848, was consecrated the Rockdale chapel, a handsome stone building erected near Woodberry entirely at his own expense, at a cost of \$5,000.00. He says 'The house was crowded, attention eagerly given, and I felt that God was there. May He accept this offering by giving us a blessing.' Dr. Wilson, in addition to serving his own church, High St., without salary, paid the salary of Rev. Wm. Wilder, who had succeeded him at the Rockdale and Huntingdon chapels. In September, 1849, he speaks of the recognition of the Rockdale church as follows: 'God has graciously made the chapel His dwelling place and has crowned His precious gospel with a rich blessing, at least 30 having been baptized since June last.' "

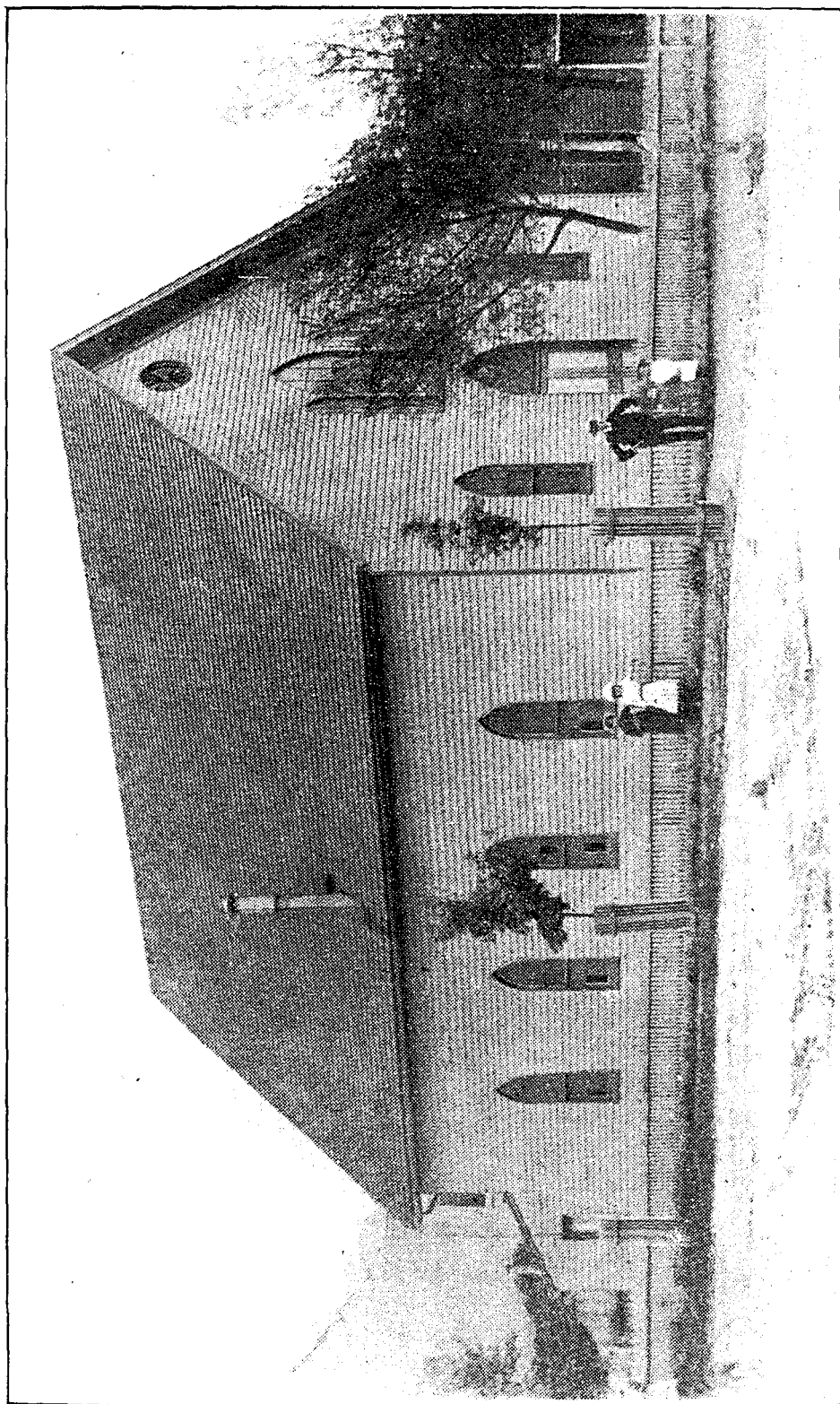
## EXTRACT FROM "RECOLLECTIONS OF UNCLE DANIEL"

DANIEL B. WILHELM

“Some years later I removed to Woodberry and could not find any Baptists there at that time, although there had been a Baptist meeting house erected there formerly by Brother Franklin Wilson at a cost of \$5,000.00 in which a church and Sunday School had flourished; but from various causes both had declined. It was thought best to sell the building and remove to Waverly. That was the last of the Baptists in Woodberry for some time. Some new Baptist families later moved there, among them Brother Thomas Wilhelm, but the past mistake as Brother Wilson called it, had an unhappy effect against starting a new church; besides other denominations had taken the field and built fine houses and the Baptists were looked upon as very insignificant people. This was shown when we attempted to organize and build another meeting house, all the rich employers, the Carrolls, Hoopers, Gambrills and Poole & Hunt together did not contribute over \$25.00 toward the expense.

We held prayer meetings for some time and we had a number of converts. Brother James Nelson, our State evangelist, came and baptized several. Eleven of us took our letters from the Forest church, which weakened that body, as at that time more left for Missouri, Westminster and Baltimore. But what was left of those good old brothers and sisters stood together with Brother J. L. Wilhelm, who preached for them when he was able. They still kept up regular meetings and a flourishing Sunday School. With those eleven from Forest and some few from Hereford and Saters and the young converts, we met in the United Brethren meeting house and were organized into what is now the Hampden (Woodberry) Baptist Church. Our number in 1874 was, I think, 35. Brother Nelson continued with us for some time. The church called Brother J. H. Barnes, of Virginia, who was a great help, as was Brother Nelson, in building up the cause. We still had no house. Our good brethren in Baltimore secured us the use of a good large tent in which we had worship until, with their aid we built the present Woodberry Baptist meeting house.





THE FRAME CHURCH—1874



## THE HAMPDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

By J. H. SUTER, SR.

The Hampden Baptist Church was publicly recognized as a church on April 23, 1874, under the name of the Woodberry Baptist Church, being the result of a series of meetings which were held in March by Rev. James Nelson in the U. B. Church on Sycamore street, which was loaned for the purpose. Brother Daniel Wilhelm seems to have been the leading spirit in the movement, he having hunted out all the Baptists in the neighborhood, at first holding cottage prayer meetings, then afternoon Sunday School in the Clipper M. P. Church. The first prayer meeting is said to have been held at the home of a Mrs. Lanigan. He found about thirty Baptists residing in the vicinity and these, together with those who were converted and baptized as a result of the meetings, formed the charter membership of the church.

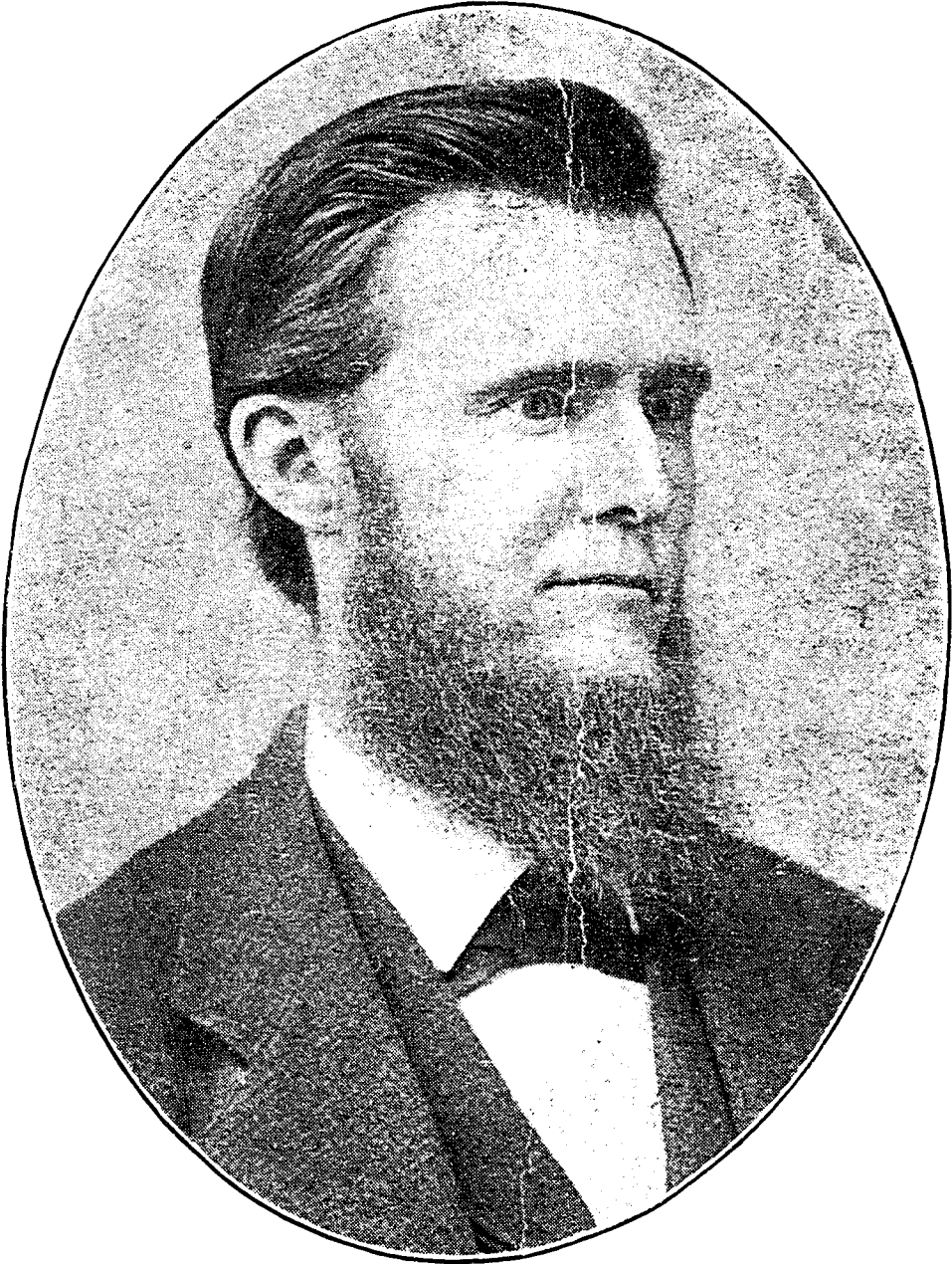
The names of the charter members, as nearly as can be found in the absence of any official record, are:

Daniel B. Wilhelm  
 Mrs. Daniel B. Wilhelm  
 Miss Jane Wilhelm  
 Miss Wilhelm  
 John Freeland  
 Mrs. John Freeland  
 Miss Annie Freeland  
 Miss Lydia Freeland  
 Thomas Wilhelm  
 Mrs. Thomas Wilhelm  
 William E. Wooden  
 Mrs. William E. Wooden  
 Mrs. Mary J. Suter  
 George W. Howard  
 Mrs. George W. Howard  
 Miss Mary Tipton  
 Miss Mollie Wooden  
 Miss Lena Wooden  
 Miss Eliza Withers  
 Miss Jane Powell

The baptizing was in the Clipper Race, by Rev. James Nelson, and included Miss Mollie Wooden, Miss Lena Wooden, Miss Jane Powell, Miss Eliza Withers, Mrs. Daniel Wilhelm.

On June 14 Rev. James H. Barnes, of Virginia, became pastor.

At first they worshiped in a small and inconvenient "upper room" (Benson's Hall or Car-



REV. JAMES H. BARNES

1874-1875





MISS SOPHIE EDRINGTON

The first person baptized in the old church





roll street, since torn down, owned by the father of our Deacon Benson). During the summer a tent was provided and erected in the grove north of the present site of the church and on the east side of Roland avenue. Report to the association in the fall of 1874 gave twenty-two accessions, eight by letter and fourteen by baptism, and a total membership of fifty-five. The first baptism in the old frame church was that of Miss Sophie Edrington, who is still an active member of the church, having served the church in many ways faithfully through all these years. The first marriage in the old church was that of William Davis and Nettie Baker. Also reported having secured a beautiful lot on favorable terms and the erection of a neat frame meeting house 36x60 feet. Brother Nelson reported this as "the most promising field in the State" and Brother Barnes writes "I am fully of the opinion that in the course of time it will amply repay for all the money and time expended upon it. They reported a Sunday School of sixty-five, including officers, teachers and scholars. Delegates to the association were:

Rev. James H. Barnes

D. B. Wilhelm

Thomas Wilhelm

The series of successes and reverses which the church endured can be closely followed by reading the yearly reports of the Executive Board and the Digest of Letters from the church to the State Association meetings. The difficulties which beset the young church were great, membership small and poor: nearly all the members were dependent on the factories and the workers were poorly paid and much time lost by frequent closing of the mills for weeks at a time. Due to this uncertainty in the labor situation the population fluctuated, many members having to remove during these times of idleness and the income of others being cut off. At this time Hampden and Woodberry were not included in the city limits and were almost entirely cut off from communication with the city. There were no street-car lines nearer than North avenue or through Druid Hill Park at the Madison avenue entrance. Trains on the Northern Central railway ran several times a day to Calvert Station, the fare being about eleven cents. There were no paved streets nor sidewalks; the roads were mud in winter and dust in summer, only a few weeks in the spring and fall giving good walking conditions. We had no water except from wells, a bathtub was unknown, no gas nor electricity. Our church and

homes were lighted by oil lamps and heated by coal or wood stoves. The only musical instrument in the church was a very small cabinet organ which gave out a wheezy tune to the efforts of the organist who had to play literally "on all fours," pumping with the feet while operating the keys with the hands; a very laborious operation. Notwithstanding all these discouragements, the small band of members struggled along cheerfully. Brother John Freeland, assisted by his family, acted as sexton for several years without pay, the ladies of the church occasionally getting together to give the church a thorough house-cleaning. Many minor repairs were made by the men without charge.

The first regular pastor was Rev. J. H. Barnes, who served about eight months, being succeeded by Rev. B. G. Parker, whose pastorate lasted about one year. The year of Brother Parker's pastorate was very successful, there being forty accessions, thirty-eight of them by baptism, although the church suffered a loss of nineteen members by letter and exclusion. Brother Parker's ministry promised to be very successful, but unfortunately differences arose between him and some of the members and he felt obliged to resign in 1876. Brother Parker passed the evening of his life

at Mardella Springs, Md., being until his death a member of the church served as pastor by one of our own boys, Brother Geo. W. Gorrell.

After this the pulpit was supplied by brethren of the "Lay Preachers' Association" until July, 1877, when Rev. A. W. Graves became pastor. The Executive Board reported that Brother Graves found the congregation much scattered and the cause in a languishing condition. At first he had some success, holding a series of meetings assisted by Rev. C. P. Scott, of Virginia, but difficulties and discouragements were more than he felt he could stand and after a few months he resigned, when the work was taken over by Brother A. B. Johnson, a member of the Lay Preachers' Association. Brother Johnson was a man of large physique and was a very devoted Christian worker, being possessed of a lovable disposition. He was handicapped, however, by having to devote his days to business in the support of his family and having to live in the city, which at that time required from an hour to nearly two hours travel to and from his home to the church. This tax on his strength, powerful man though he was, became too great and he was compelled to give up the work after nearly two years of faithful service. Brother Johnson left the

church in good condition, having united the membership and strengthened the work in every way. About this time, 1877, the church had a very valuable accession by the admission of Brother D. G. Stevens and family. Brother Stevens and wife brought their letters from Eutaw Place Church and, though living fully two miles from the church, decided to cast in their lot with the small struggling Hampden Mission rather than to continue what would have undoubtedly been far more congenial membership in the old well-established church which they left.

Brother Stevens' children all joined the church in their youth and were all faithful attendants on the services, walking the two miles each way, rarely missing a service, no matter how severe the weather. Brother Stevens served as deacon of the church during practically the whole time he was with the church, was superintendent of the Sunday School about six years, director of music for some years and also filled other important offices, including that of church clerk for about eight years. He was also a liberal contributor to the expenses of the church. One of his sons, D. G. Stevens, Jr., was the first young man ordained to the ministry from our church, has held very important pas-

torates, among them that at Bryn Mawr, and is at present, 1924, editor of the book department of the American Baptist Publication Society. He is a very able scholar and had the degree of Ph. D. conferred on him some years ago.

Brother Johnson was succeeded on February 10, 1880, by Rev. Samuel Saunders, who served until July, 1881, when he resigned to accept a pastorate at Washington D. C. On leaving, Brother Saunders reported "the cause as looking up and prospects hopeful." Six were baptized by Brother Saunders during his ministry and in nearly all his monthly reports to the board he pleaded for assistance by some of the workers from the city churches to come and help the work along.

Rev. Charles A. Harris succeeded to the pastorate July 25, 1881, serving until June 25, 1882, when he resigned on account of ill health. Brother Harris' work was successful, twenty-seven being added by baptism during the year's ministry.

The letter to the association in November, 1881, reported better spiritual condition than for some years, the interest increasing and the congregations improving in numbers. Sunday School also busy and house of worship renovated and insured. The next year, 1882, the Execu-



REV. F. B. LA-BARRER

1885-1895





tive Board reported largely increased attendance and important improvements to the house of worship. We are glad to note that Brother Harris is still living in the vicinity of Baltimore, although having retired from the ministry a number of years ago.

Rev. A. S. Flock was the next pastor, entering on his labors August 20, 1882, serving until June 4, 1884. During his ministry there were about twelve baptisms, additions by letter bringing a total increase in membership of about twenty. Unfortunately the work did not progress satisfactorily during Brother Flock's pastorate and he resigned May, 1884, after which the pulpit was vacant until late in the fall, when Brother F. B. La-Barrer was called and entered on his duties December 1, 1884.

This was the turning point in the history of the church. Brother La-Barrer's instructions from the Executive Board on assuming charge were "to either bring the Hampden Church to life or to bury it." By reference to the charts one can see at a glance that the church and school both remained about the same with few variations during all the years from their organization until the coming of Brother La-Barrer. At no time had the membership of the church reached 100 except for a few months in

the Fall and Winter of 1883-4, and only once had the school gone over 150, the number reported to the association in the Fall of 1882, as 163, the next year dropping to 109. With the coming of Brother La-Barrer a steady upward growth is noted, reaching its peak in 1889, the membership being reported in that year as 622 in the church and 550 in the Sunday School, during the pastorate of Rev. J. J. Wicker, who followed Brother La-Barrer. These two brethren, almost opposites in characteristics and methods of working, had the two longest and most successful pastorates in the history of the church up to 1900.

Brother La-Barrer found the church, quoting from his report to the Executive Board, "in a very low condition; the congregation a mere handful and many of the members alienated and scattered. Owing to the dull times in the factories, many of the members had removed and it required self-denial and effort on the part of the church to meet its obligations; the spirit of devotion and faith exhibited by this little band in the face of many discouragements is inspiring."

Brother La-Barrer might be described as a plodder. He planned his work carefully and was a great organizer. Not a brilliant preacher, he

prepared his sermons carefully and read almost exclusively from his manuscript, but his sermons were so sound and delivered in so earnest a manner that, though closely read, they were not tiresome, but very interesting and instructive. He found the church a mere handful, dependent on the board for the larger part of the minister's salary, and left it after ten years of service a strong organization, entirely self-supporting and doing its share towards supporting other and weaker churches. He found it worshipping in a small and poorly-furnished chapel and left it in a large well-built and well-furnished stone building. In his second year he baptized eighty-six persons, almost as many as the total membership of the church when he took charge. In the Fall of 1886 the church reported "many conversions, congregations increased, Sunday School in good condition, finances satisfactory; no debt, house repaired at a cost of \$77.00 and a mission started at Remington. In 1887, fifty-one additions were reported, forty-four of them by baptism. In the report of the Executive Board to the association October, 1889, they say "No church aided by the board has shown a better record than the Hampden Church, etc." (See report page 142.)

In 1889 the church became self-supporting, paying all its own expenses, including the pastor's salary, without assistance from the board or the other churches. At this time they also tore down their old frame building and, through the generous assistance of the Church Extension Society, erected the present stone building, which at that time was considered a very fine building and thought adequate for the needs of the church for many years to come. During the erection of the new church, services were held in the Hampden Hall, Roland avenue and Thirty-sixth street. The new building, with its furnishings and ground, cost about \$16,000.00, and the letter to the association in the fall of 1891 says "the wisdom of the enterprise is now apparent, the large auditorium being frequently taxed to its utmost capacity with earnest listeners to the Word." Reports for the ensuing years were all of the same tenor; general improvements in all lines being noted — a gradual, steady, healthy growth. Brother La-Barrer suffered the loss of two of his children during the second year of his ministry and his wife also died in 1890. Later he married one of the church's most devoted workers, Miss Mary F. Stevens, daughter of Deacon D. G. Stevens.



REV. J. J. WICKER, D. D.

1895-1901



She was a real help-meet and survives him, making her home with her children in Uniontown, Pa. Brother La-Barrer resigned September 19, 1894, to accept a call from the Riverside Church, later going to a charge in Salem, N. J., where he served until his death in July, 1911.

Rev. J. J. Wicker followed Brother La-Barrer and under his ministry the work continued to grow without a relapse until the membership reached the total of 622 in the Fall of 1899. Brother Wicker was a young man of vigorous physical strength and a brilliant and forceful speaker. Preaching almost entirely extemporaneously, with a strong delivery, he was almost the exact opposite of his predecessor in style, each being forceful in his own way. He was the ideal man to follow and build on the foundation laid by Brother La-Barrer. Brother Wicker's brilliant and plain-spoken sermons soon drew crowded houses and the church building could not hold the multitude which came to hear him; so great improvements were soon undertaken and successfully carried through. The false ceiling which had originally been built in the auditorium was torn out and the rafters and inside of the roof wainscoted; galleries were

put in and a pipe organ installed. There were added to the church in

1895 .....	113
1896 .....	125
1897 .....	38
1898 .....	41
1899 .....	76
1900 .....	34

Brother Wicker closed his pastorate November 1, 1900, after serving about six years, resigning to accept a church in Trenton, N. J., afterwards going to Richmond, Va. He has since devoted his time to evangelistic work with very great success. He was given the title of D. D. by the University of Richmond in June, 1917. A very interesting incident of Brother Wicker's pastorate was the baptism of Chu Foy. This brother, who was a Chinese laundryman, doing business on Thirty-sixth street, was converted by the direct teaching and solicitation of Brother Wicker and he proved a very devoted member. Converted and baptized in 1895, he went to China about three years later to preach Christ to his own countrymen, but as China was at that time in the midst of the great anti-mission movement known as the "Boxer Troubles," he was refused a hearing



and compelled to return to this country. He again went to China in 1894 and again in 1908 and was successful in converting a number of his people, among them being members of his own family. His devotion to his church and mission to his own country won the respect and admiration of our whole membership, many of whom are proud to count him among their friends.

During Brother Wicker's pastorate the church and school were greatly helped by the active membership of Brother Geo. G. Tyler and some of his family who, while living in Roland Park, brought their letters to our church and took an active part in the work of the church; Brother Tyler serving as deacon and two of his daughters teaching in the Sunday School. The church regretted their loss when they removed from Roland Park.

Rev. S. G. Reading succeeded Brother Wicker February 1, 1901, and served until 1903. During his ministry the church installed the steam-heating plant, principally through the efforts of Brother J. T. Gosnell, whose enthusiasm and attention to this branch of the work made this improvement possible.

Rev. H. C. Risner followed Dr. Reading, taking charge October 1, 1903, and continued until

the fall of 1905. He was a very large man physically, and a forceful speaker; about fifty additions to the church were made during his ministry. Rev. C. C. Cox was the next pastor, and he served until the Fall of 1908. Brother Cox was an able and earnest preacher and a very interesting and scholarly speaker. The additions to the membership during his pastorate were about fifty, most of them by baptism, but a revision of the church rolls and dropping of inactive members caused a marked decrease in the reported membership. Brother Cox has also been made a D. D. since leaving us.

Beginning early in 1909, the church entered upon a period of steady growth which has continued, with only a slight interruption during the war, when there was a small decrease in membership and contributions in 1917 due to the unsettled conditions of the times.

Rev. Kingman A. Handy followed Dr. Cox and served until 1915, a period of about seven years. Brother Handy's work was very similar to that of Brother La-Barerr's; he was an organizer. Under his pastorate the Sunday School, B. Y. P. U. and other organizations made great progress. He was primarily an educator. The Sunday School was reorganized and thoroughly graded, the departments being sep-



REV. KINGMAN A. HANDY  
1909-1915



arated as well as the building would permit. Many of the teachers pursued special study courses and secured diplomas as teachers and the foundation was laid for the great growth in membership, contributions, and general work which a few years later reached such great proportions under his successor, Rev. Charles T. Hewitt. Very like the former pastorates of Brothers La-Barrer and Wicker, were those of Brothers Handy and Hewitt. In each case the foundation layer was followed by the builder, the work of the two in each case exactly fitting together to produce the best results. Surely this was planned by our Wise Heavenly Father; may He continue his gracious care over us.

Brother Handy resigned in 1915 to accept the position of Superintendent of Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. work in the State, for which he was so well fitted, and Rev. Charles T. Hewitt assumed charge as pastor. In the fall of the following year, 1916, we reported to the association that our membership had been increased by 110 during the year and that improvements to the building, including the installation of electric wiring and lights, costing altogether \$2,700.00, had been made, the pastor's salary had been increased and the Bible School and the men's class had taken their places among

the largest in the Baptist churches of the State. Brother Hewitt is a man of very active, nervous temperament, a strong forceful speaker and an earnest untiring worker, and one who is not satisfied unless everything is moving strongly on the up-grade. He was very tactful (an unusual trait in one of so nervous a disposition) and quickly arranged any pending disagreement which he saw among the workers. The work under his pastorate continued to grow very rapidly, the only setback being as noted, in 1917, the first year of our country's entrance into the war. In 1918 he entered the army, serving as chaplain of the Base Hospital, Camp Meade, Md., for six months, then sent to France as chaplain of 324th Infantry, 2nd Battalion, 81st Division, and served until the end of the war, returning to the church after the Armistice, taking up his work as pastor again on April 13, 1919. The church had refused to accept his resignation when he entered the army, but granted him an indefinite leave, calling Rev. Samuel Bower to serve as acting pastor during Brother Hewitt's absence. Brother Bower's pastorate was entirely satisfactory. An earnest preacher, a lovable man and a true friend, he quickly won a place in the hearts of the members, and many regretted that on Pastor Hew-

itt's return the church was not strong enough to retain him as co-pastor with Brother Hewitt.

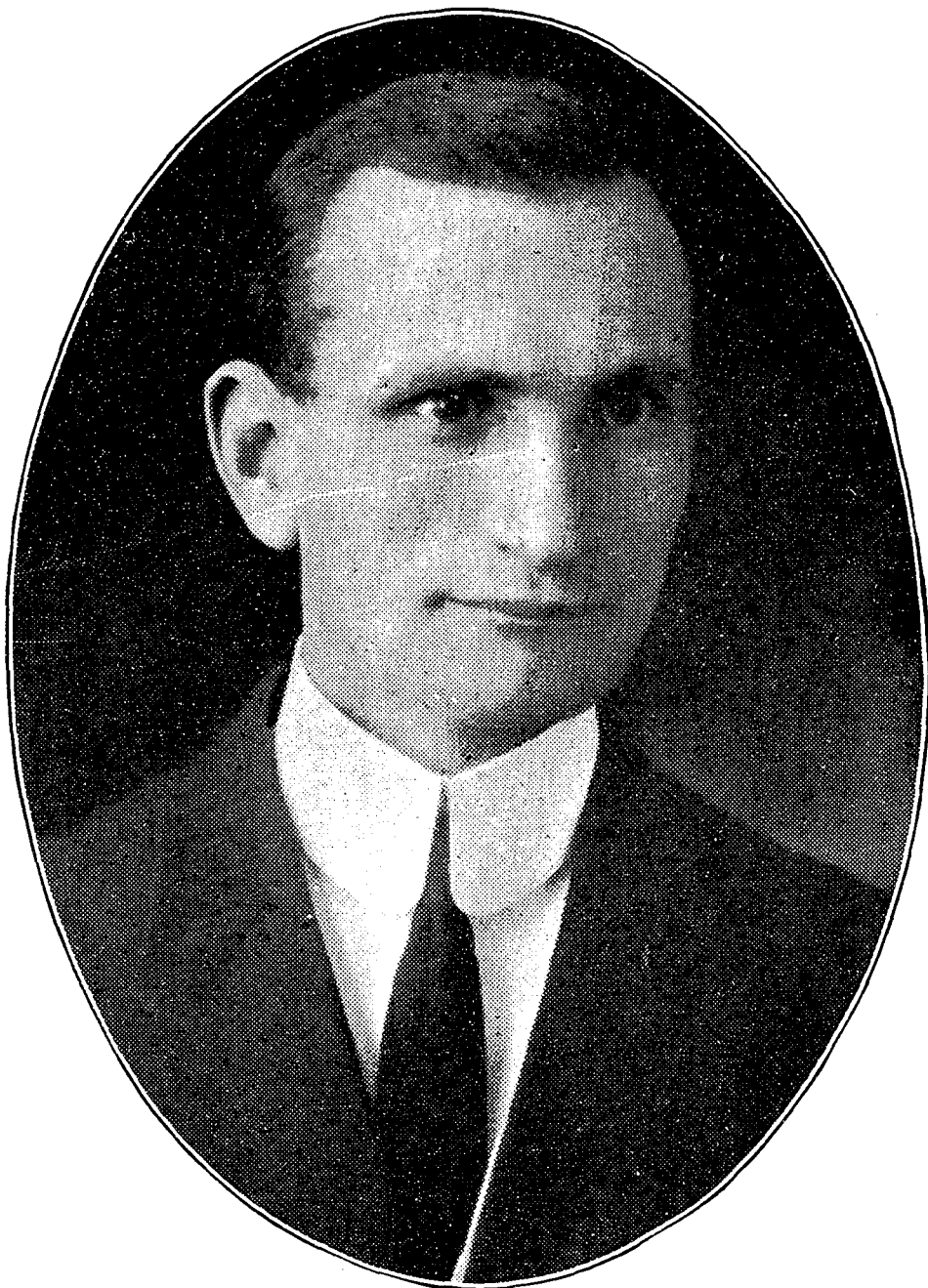
The work under Brother Bower's care continued strongly supported, showing a slight growth even through the trying months of the war. After Brother Hewitt's return and the close of the war, when men's minds began to return to normal conditions, the work began again a strong upward growth which has continued without interruption to the present time.

The first year of Brother Hewitt's pastorate the membership of the church, as reported to the association, was 542, and in 1922, his last full year, as 807. Contributions of the church in 1915 were \$2,655.18 and 1922, \$9,776.79. The Sunday School reported in 1915 a membership of 389 and in 1922, 766, while its contributions in 1915 of \$323.40 had increased in 1922 to \$2,219.35.

Brother Hewitt resigned in 1923 to accept a call to St. Albins, Charleston, W. Va., later resigning to accept a call to a very large and important field at Martin's Ferry, Ohio. After Brother Hewitt's leaving we were without a pastor for some months. After having been served by such able men for so many years, it was difficult for us to find a man to satisfactorily fill the place. At one time it looked as though

Brother Hewitt might return to us, and indeed he had accepted our return call, but just at that time his church at St. Albins was experiencing a very successful revival, many were being converted, and both he and his church asked us to release him so that the work could go on undisturbed; though reluctant to give up the expectation of having Brother Hewitt with us again, we could not do otherwise than release him under the circumstances. Shortly after this the Lord sent us our present very efficient and learned pastor, Rev. Edward Taber, and we are confidently looking for a continuance of our upward growth which is already taxing our building and causing us to consider plans for enlargement and improvements so that the work may not suffer from lack of facilities to carry it on. We hope the day is not far distant when we can build a larger church, Sunday School, church house and parsonage, which will be up-to-date and fully ample to take care of the work for many years to come.





REV. CHARLES T. HEWITT

1919-1923



## LOOKING FORWARD

The Hampden Baptist Church is a church of active membership and active departments. We believe that during its long life it has performed a real service to the city, and has reflected the teachings of the One upon whose message it is founded. However, we do not wish to dwell either in the past or the present. Let us look forward.

We wish our church to serve the community. We believe that its primary purpose is to minister to the spiritual needs of the people of this section of the city. But we do not want the church to be limited in its scope. We want its influence felt throughout the city and State. We believe that this church is an asset to Baltimore.

We expect to grow. We will grow as long as we perform a real service. To stand still is to stagnate.

This church stands for righteousness. It is the enemy of fraud and corruption, in high places and low. It hopes to do what it can to be a defender of morality and the law of the land. We believe in America and American laws.

We believe that this church must minister to all with whom it comes in contact. We want it

to be a place where the stranger is a stranger no more, and where every one is welcome regardless of creed or lack of creed, utterly independent of financial contribution.

It is the purpose and ideal of this church, overshadowing all other purposes and ideals, to preach the gospel of Christ. That gospel must be preached from pulpit and pew. It must be preached in a united church, and by an organization that emulates the Master. It must teach that there is no soul so depraved or despondent that it is beyond the love of Christ, or His power to redeem. It must teach the good news of the love of God.

We hope for growth materially and financially. We hope that the years to come will bring new property, new prosperity. But we think that these things are best achieved as the natural outcome of a healthy spiritual condition.

This church has given to missions in the past, and it must certainly continue to do so in the future. We believe in the great world-wide program of the Baptist Church.

This church is dedicated to God. Its primary purpose is to preach the gospel of Christ. Its highest and holiest aim is to be a refuge 'gainst every storm that blows, a harbor and

a haven for the tired mind and the weary heart. We believe that ours is and must continue to be, a church with a message, one of which the casual visitor and the loyal member can alike say, "It is good to have been in the house of the Lord."

EDWARD TABER.

## OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

EDWARD TABER, *Pastor.*

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### DEACONS

LEONARD F. BULL, SR., *Chairman.*

J. T. BENSON

JOHN W. STIFFLER

J. H. SUTER, SR.

EDWARD M. SPATH, SR.

JOHN E. OREM

T. A. SHELTON

### TRUSTEES

JOHN W. MARR, *Chairman.*

CHARLES E. HOSHALL

J. T. GOSNELL

DAVID WHEELER

WILLIAM BUNTING

CHARLES MARK

### CLERK

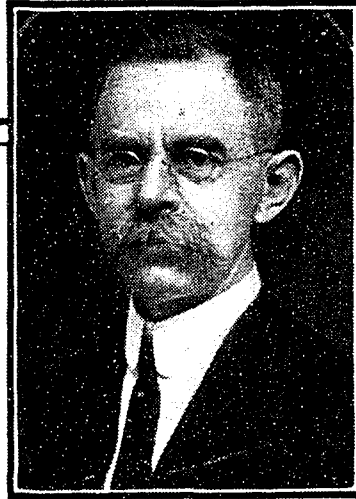
JOHN C. HOSHALL

### TREASURER

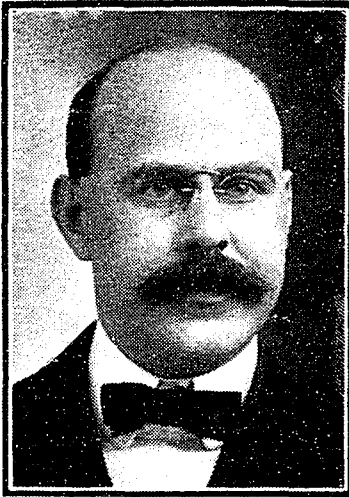
JOHN W. STIFFLER



*J. T. Benson*



*J. H. Suter Sr.*



*J. E. Orem*



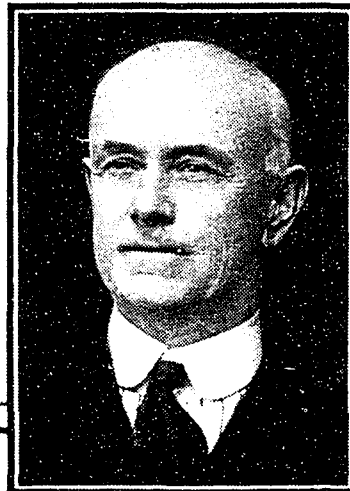
*L. F. Bull*



*J. W. Stiffler*



*E. N. Spath*



*T. A. Shelton*







J. T. GOSNELL  
Trustee



WILLIAM BUNTING  
Trustee



CHAS. E. HOSHALL  
Trustee



JOHN C. HOSHALL  
Church Clerk



**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

MISS LILA AYLER

**ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

MRS. GRACE BASSFORD

**CHORISTER**

STEPHEN C. HALL

**ORGANIST**

MRS. IRENE SHEARER

MRS. INEZ FISHER, *Assistant.*

**CHAIRMAN OF USHERS**

JOHN C. HOSHALL

**PIANIST FOR PRAYER MEETINGS**

MRS. HATTIE PULLEN

MRS. IRENE SHEARER, *Assistant.*

# STATISTICS OF THE CHURCH

Year.	Pastor.	Members last year.	Increase by			Decrease by			Present Membership.	Value of Church Property.	Debts.	Church Clerk.
			Baptisms.	Letters.	Experience and Restoration.	Letters.	Erasure and Exclusion.	Deaths.				
1874	J. H. Barnes	...	14	8	33	..	...	..	55	.....	.....	D. G. Stevens, Sr. " "
1875	B. G. Parker	...	38	2	..	13	6	..	76	.....	.....	
1876	" to August After July	...	...	..	..	4	21	1	50	.....	.....	
1877	A. W. Graves	...	7	..	..	..	1	3	53	.....	.....	
1878	A. B. Johnson	...	7	3	2	13	1	..	49	.....	.....	
1879	"	...	8	3	..	..	4	2	40	.....	.....	
1880	Sam'l. Saunders	...	6	1	..	..	...	1	47	.....	.....	
1881	C. A. Harris	...	10	6	1	2	...	..	74	.....	.....	
1882	A. S. Flock	...	25	4	3	4	7	..	95	.....	.....	
1883	"	...	13	5	2	1	...	..	103	.....	.....	
1884	" to June 4	...	3	2	..	3	14	2	92	.....	.....	
1885	F. B. La-Barrer	...	2	3	1	10	21	3	63	.....	.....	
1886	"	...	86	3	32	4	...	1	179	.....	.....	
1887	"	...	40	4	7	1	22	1	206	.....	.....	
1888	"	...	41	10	5	8	4	5	248	.....	.....	
1889	"	...	48	5	4	8	20	3	274	.....	.....	
1890	"	...	20	5	3	4	12	5	281	.....	.....	
1891	"	...	12	7	2	4	7	5	276	.....	.....	
1892	"	278	34	2	4	2	10	6	300	.....	.....	

1893	"	300	13	2	3	5	8	3	302	\$16000	\$2000	"
1894	"	300	10	3	1	10	2	2	300	14000	2000	"
1895	J. J. Wicker	300	93	20	5	1	...	3	414	14000	2000	"
1896	"	414	107	15	3	..	2	7	530	14500	2000	"
1897	"	530	28	10	2	3	...	2	565	15000	2000	F. D. Pullen
1898	"	565	35	6	2	4	26	..	578	17000	2000	"
1899	"	578	70	6	6	5	30	3	622	18000	2000	"
1900	"	522	26	8	2	..	30	1	527	18000	2000	J. E. Orem
1901	S. G. Reading	437	4	4	2	6	11	6	424	18000	3500	"
1902	"	424	14	5	1	8	14	2	420	18000	3500	"
1903	H. C. Risner	420	29	3	4	4	...	2	450	20000	3500	"
1904	"	450	15	3	1	3	...	..	466	20000	3500	"
1905	.....	466	25	3	2	9	28	2	457	20000	3500	A. J. Arthur
1906	C. C. Cox	457	14	2	3	11	117	2	346	20000	2500	"
1907	"	346	13	..	2	7	13	3	338	20000	1500	"
1908	.....	338	24	8	3	9	66	2	296	20000	2300	"
1909	K. A. Handy	296	63	10	6	3	1	2	369	20000	2200	"
1910	"	369	8	5	1	8	...	3	372	20000	2100	"
1911	"	372	12	4	..	4	...	5	379	20000	2000	"
1912	"	379	29	6	1	3	...	4	408	20000	1900	"
1913	"	408	14	12	1	2	...	4	429	20000	1800	"
1914	"	429	28	7	5	4	2	1	462	20000	700	Edw. Bassford
1915	Chas. T. Hewitt	462	83	6	5	8	2	4	542	20000	1600	C. H. Mark
1916	"	542	82	15	17	12	...	5	639	24000	4000	"
1917	"	639	23	14	6	9	...	5	573	25000	3100	"
1918	Sam'l. Bower Supply pastor	573	8	6	3	6	...	2	582	25000	2900	H. K. Hillburn
1919	Chas. T. Hewitt	582	12	5	7	7	...	4	595	40000	....	"
1920	"	595	83	7	7	11	...	7	674	40000	....	"
1921	"	674	120	3	11	14	...	6	788	60000	....	Jno. C. Hoshall
1922	"	788	23	..	6	3	...	7	807	60000	....	"
1923	Edward Taber	807	14	6	..	12	...	3	812	60000	....	"

# CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CHURCH

Year	Pastor's Salary and Church Expenses.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	City Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Building and Loan Fund.	Widows' and Superannuated Ministers' Fund.	Bible. Work.	Church Extension Society.	Maryland Baptist Union Association.	Other Objects.	Total.
1874	12.80										25.00		
1875											5.00		
1876											5.00		
1877											2.00		
1878											10.00		
1879											10.00		
1880	275.00		3.00				3.00	2.47			10.00	120.00	413.47
1881	389.00						5.00				20.00	13.10	427.10
1882	464.27			45.00							25.00		534.27
1883	582.46		19.40								25.00	151.00	777.86
1884	591.36			13.00				1.62			20.00		625.98
1885	415.93			5.00									420.93
1886	501.86		30.81	13.90							50.00	98.75	695.32
1887	1,334.00		10.00	28.55							60.25	56.15	1,498.95
1888	920.17		28.90	21.40		2.00	2.50	9.78			51.76	122.93	1,152.66
1889	2,422.29		38.90	76.43							68.35		
1890	1,387.00		47.21	32.00		5.00		3.00				1,053.56	2,527.77
1891	1,685.82		20.79	38.75		5.00					28.00	1,668.69	3,447.05
1892	2,065.00		52.75	27.00							10.00	77.82	2,232.57
1893	1,567.92		49.57	40.46							10.00	19.72	1,687.67
1894	1,525.84		56.31	39.61							28.00	128.00	1,777.76

1895	992.50		210.90	47.23							25.00	51.75	1,327.38
1896	2,422.29		38.96	76.43							68.35	1,020.13	3,626.16
1897	2,006.69		149.84	68.50							73.25	269.52	2,567.80
1898	2,048.00	75.00	130.00	81.00						46.00		670.00	3,050.00
1899	2,370.26	75.00	111.16	124.35			15.00	10.00				1,343.11	4,048.88
1900	2,358.30	76.73	149.95	140.00	6.20		30.00					853.16	3,614.33
1901	1,905.71	15.71	134.11	35.86									2,091.39
1902	1,327.58	25.00	151.60	13.60								800.00	2,347.78
1903	1,862.27	56.37	151.51	24.63	15.02							18.45	2,128.25
1904	2,395.06	105.93	146.94	21.42									2,669.35
1905	2,699.24	62.26	152.03	62.59					17.60	20.75		63.39	3,077.86
1906	2,227.85	82.74	20.90	39.98					39.26	32.55		1,172.25	3,615.53
1907	1,796.89	12.50	15.00	15.00				6.85		12.50		2,170.25	4,028.99
1908	1,959.56	117.35	52.40	166.65					5.20	66.15		308.30	2,675.61
1909	1,770.62	77.19	118.26	64.88					6.00	8.99		866.20	2,912.08
1910	1,802.48	128.20	226.04	94.92						50.56		509.23	2,812.43
1911	1,699.04	98.73	283.76	78.70						4.00		641.51	2,817.74
1912	1,731.13	147.94	305.04	93.62						33.47		172.55	2,483.75
1913	1,706.84	84.76	210.00	66.91			25.00		5.00	41.21		1,075.81	3,215.53
1914	1,537.49	84.96	196.99	54.07						26.84		570.64	2,470.99
1915	1,725.00	38.10	154.43	46.03			10.00			23.62		658.00	2,655.18
1916	3,000.00	36.25	45.16	46.74						42.11		3,100.00	6,270.26
1917	2,500.00	83.69	40.95	46.89			30.00			43.39		1,350.00	4,094.92
1918	1,383.00	79.10	48.52	52.16						27.84		200.00	1,790.62
1919	6,698.19	103.57	104.19	108.49						102.46		734.00	7,851.00
Seventy-five Million Campaign													
1920	3,969.30						1,442.99					3,587.71	9,000.00
1921	5,330.14						1,961.06					185.56	7,476.76
1922	3,427.50						2,560.04					3,789.25	9,776.79
1923	3,796.14						2,335.66					1,460.46	7,592.26

# STATISTICS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Year	Superintendent.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Scholars Baptized	CONTRIBUTIONS					
						State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Bible Work.	Other Objects.	Total.
1874	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1875	.....	9	102	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$100.00
1876	.....	13	66	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25.00
1877	.....	18	118	86	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	453.00
1878	.....	16	79	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1879	.....	12	80	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1880	D. G. Stevens, Sr.	13	69	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46.00
1881	"	16	84	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	98.75
1882	"	18	163	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80.00
1883	"	18	109	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44.42
1884	J. H. Suter	16	100	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70.00
1885	"	17	108	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44.30
1886	"	21	150	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35.33
1887	"	19	175	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75.00
1888	D. G. Stevens, Sr.	22	199	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	105.65
1889	"	21	218	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	124.00
1890	J. T. Benson	23	203	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	143.05
1891	"	28	251	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	129.15
1892	"	24	246	.....	18	.....	22.82	.....	.....	127.38	150.20
1893	"	26	208	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	134.25
1894	"	23	200	.....	5	13.00	.....	13.00	.....	90.00	116.00
1895	"	27	285	.....	65	22.00	.....	22.00	.....	78.00	122.00



1896	"	36	460	.....	.....	5.00	13.01	13.02	.....	280.46	311.49
1897	"	32	525	.....	15	5.00	.....	.....	.....	199.67	204.67
1898	"	35	530	280	20	5.00	.....	.....	20.00	200.00	225.00
1899	"	38	550	285	.....	5.00	.....	.....	23.00	141.57	169.57
1900	"	38	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49.16	140.81	189.97
1901	"	34	312	.....	2	5.00	.....	.....	8.75	129.50	143.25
1902	"	23	250	200	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	120.00	120.00
1903	"	20	250	200	8	5.00	.....	.....	.....	65.41	70.41
1904	"	26	305	155	.....	10.00	.....	.....	24.73	66.80	101.53
1905	J. T. Benson	28	320	197	.....	5.00	.....	.....	7.60	69.69	182.74
1906	"	24	344	85	.....	5.00	.....	.....	39.26	71.13	115.39
1907	"	25	273	125	7	.....	.....	.....	10.00	139.96	149.96
1908	"	24	180	100	16	13.77	.....	8.40	5.20	102.34	129.71
1909	"	24	322	131	23	10.22	.....	15.96	6.00	130.80	162.98
1910	J. H. Suter	22	285	130	5	3.27	1.30	3.44	6.00	122.60	136.61
1911	"	21	250	160	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	228.51
1912	"	40	225	157	14	25.00	.....	.....	.....	156.90	181.90
1913	A. H. Goering	40	276	162	2	25.00	.....	.....	5.00	351.00	381.00
1914	"	40	363	164	17	25.00	3.45	3.45	.....	297.04	328.94
1915	"	38	389	175	32	10.00	6.00	9.00	.....	298.40	323.40
1916	"	47	517	275	32	30.60	5.59	9.78	.....	448.65	494.62
1917	"	47	495	225	10	16.81	3.61	.....	.....	.....	.....
1918	"	32	325	160	27	11.45	.....	1.68	.....	.....	13.13
1919	"	40	300	.....	9	35.00	14.12	21.18	.....	150.00	220.30
<b>Seventy-five Million Campaign</b>											
1920	Peter Snelling	42	418	270	60	.....	69.60	.....	.....	998.00	1,067.60
1921	J. W. Stiffler	46	706	325	87	.....	84.85	.....	.....	1,441.98	1,526.83
1922	"	49	766	307	12	.....	55.46	.....	.....	2,163.89	2,219.35
1923	"	41	626	223	8	.....	17.10	.....	.....	831.80	848.90

CHART No. 1

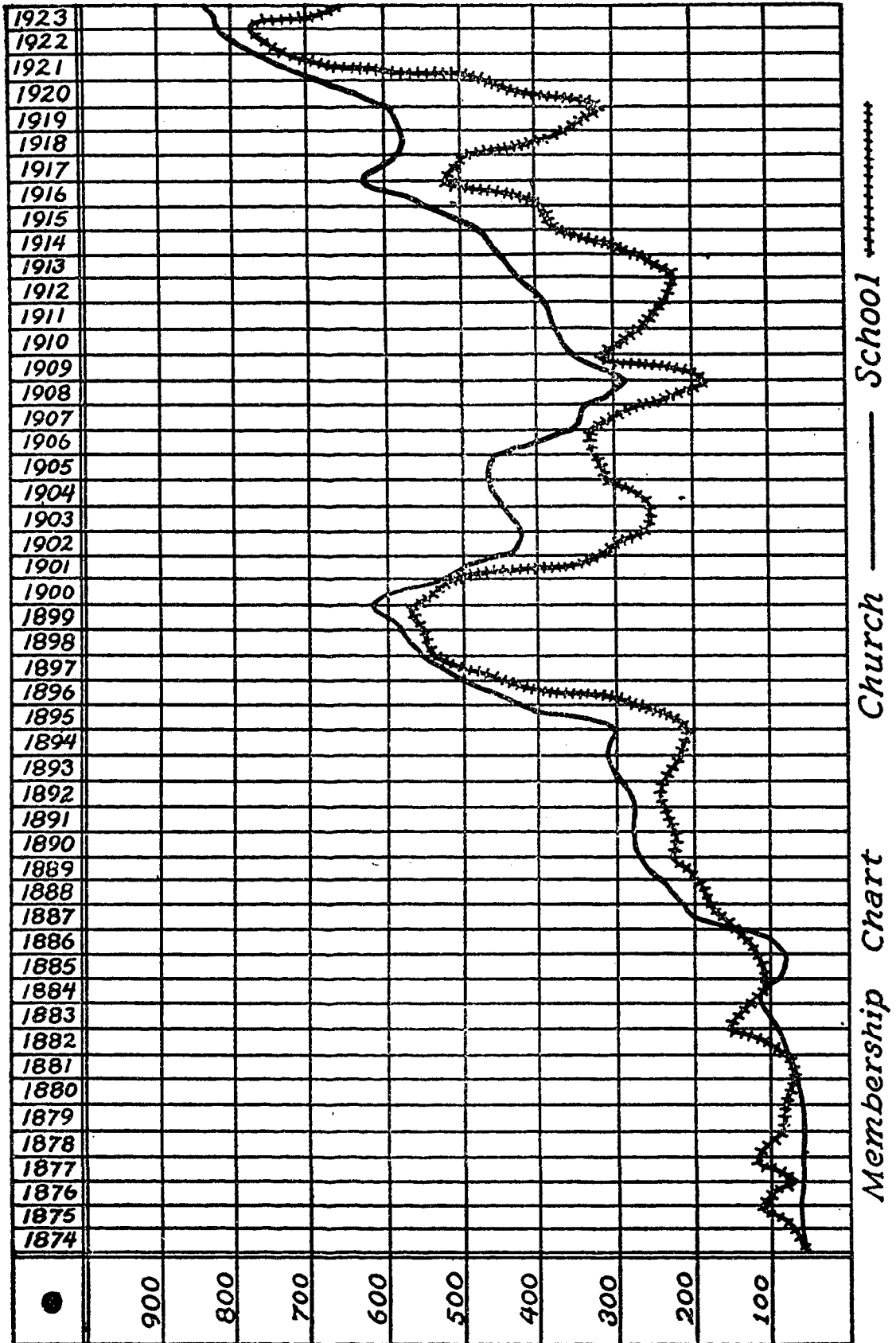
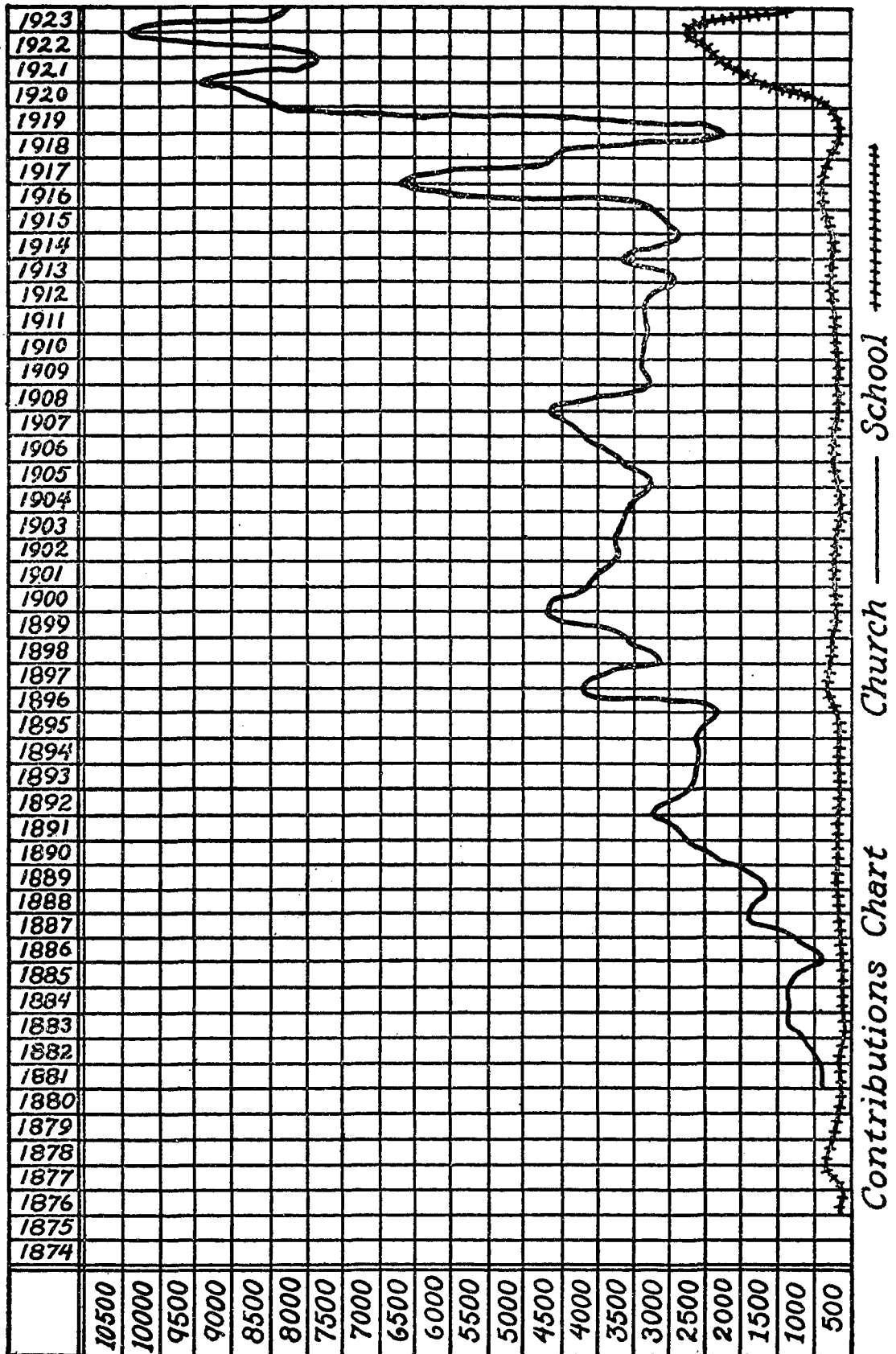


CHART No. 2



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF PASTOR EDWARD TABER

The early years of my life were spent in travel; for the first fourteen years of my existence I seldom remained in a city more than six months. I went to school in a dozen of the cities of the land, and, of course, had to revise my views of the universe each time to meet the standard of the Board of Education of the particular town in which I was then residing.

At the age of fourteen I began to settle down, and went to the eighth grade in Washington, D. C., and from there to Washington Central High School, from which I graduated in 1917. I then attended Georgetown University. From there I went to the Virginia Theological Seminary for a short time, and later to George Washington University.

At this period of my life I was baptized into the Baptist Church. For some time I had been attracted to the simplicity and purity of Baptist doctrine and church government, and made the change from the Episcopal Church after much thought and meditation.

My first call was to a field of churches in Virginia. I was ordained at the rather early age of

twenty-one by the Clifton (Va.) Baptist Church. I was pastor of this Virginia field of churches, of which Clifton was one, for a year and a half. I became principal of the school at Haymarket, Va., and taught the high school there for a short time.

In December, 1922, I became pastor of the Front Royal Baptist Church, and remained there nearly two years.

I have been pastor of the Hampden Baptist Church since January, 1923, and the time has been a period of delightful associations for me.

I can truthfully say that my greatest wish is for the welfare of the church in which we are all devotedly interested.

**BIOGRAPHY OF DEACONS****DEACON J. THOMAS BENSON.**

Baptized by Rev. F. B. La-Barrer. Previously was connected with Woodberry M. E. Church, in which he was active as director of music. Ordained deacon in 1890. Superintendent of the Sunday School from 1890 to 1909 inclusive, a period of about twenty years, during which time the school increased in members from 203 to 322, having reached the high point of 550 in 1899.

Deacon Benson has always been active in all the work of the church, a very liberal contributor and of very great assistance in the musical work of both church and school. His wife, Mrs. Bessie H. Benson, is also a member, she having been baptized at the same time as her mother and four sisters, the mother and five children all entering the baptistery at the same time, making a very interesting and unusual sight.

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**DEACON J. H. SUTER, SR.**

Charter member of the Sunday School when quite a small boy. Baptized by Rev. Charles A. Harris in the winter of 1881-82. Served in the

Sunday School as secretary, teacher, and superintendent about seven years; organist of the church about twenty-five years; treasurer of the church a number of years; president of the Baptist Young People's Union about twenty years; treasurer of the State Baptist Young People's Union about twenty-one years, and has filled other offices in the church and school at various times, including that of director of music during the past three years. Ordained as deacon and served as such until his temporary removal to New York City when he resigned, again being elected to the office in 1917.

All of Deacon Suter's family have been active in the church work. His mother was a charter member of the church and was active in all the work of the church, being one of the organizers of the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Societies. His wife was teacher in the Sunday School, as well as organist for a number of years; his daughter, Inez, has also been teacher and organist, as well as organist of the church for a number of years. J. Herman, Jr., is superintendent of the Junior Department in the Sunday School, and also of the Intermediate Department of the Baptist Young People's Union, and Joseph is teacher in the Sunday School.

The oldest son, Roland, is active in the work of the Overlea Baptist Church, of which he is a member.

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### DEACON LEONARD F. BULL

Was baptized by Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, January 27, 1889. He has been active in the work of both church and school, having served as teacher and assistant superintendent in the Sunday School and financial secretary in the church. He was elected deacon April 2, 1902, and ordained September 21, 1909.

Brother Bull has served as chairman of the Board of Deacons for several years, and his services in this position have been very valuable to the church, particularly in looking after the pulpit supply during the absence of the pastor and when the pastorate was vacant.

Mrs. Bull has also served as teacher in the Sunday School, has been active in the various missionary and aid societies, and particularly effective in local Red Cross work. His daughter has taught in the Primary Department, and son has served as chairman of the ushers in the church.



## DEACON JOHN E. OREM

Was baptized by Dr. Wicker in October, 1898, and at once entered into active work in the church. He was clerk of the church for ten years, from August 3, 1899; trustee for several years; teacher in the Sunday School, fifteen years, being at the present time president of the Men's Bible Class, where he has served for several years. He was elected deacon April 2, 1902, and ordained September 12, 1909.

He served as chairman of the committee in the church on the seventy-five million campaign, in which the church raised \$11,588.

He was also chairman of the committee to raise the mortgage on the church which was successfully accomplished, the mortgage being burned in October, 1919.

He was also financial secretary for four years, 1918 to 1922.

Mrs. Orem has also been active in the church work in many departments, missionary and aid societies, etc., and has been for several years teacher of the Goodwill Class in the Sunday School.

His daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Orem Jett, was organist of the church for several years, and Miss Ruth R. Orem is a teacher in the Junior

Department of the Sunday School. The youngest daughter, Marjorie V. Orem, being also a member of the church and school.

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### DEACON JOHN W. STIFFLER

Was baptized by Rev. F. B. La-Barrer in October, 1886.

He was elected financial secretary of the church in October, 1901, and served as such sixteen years. Elected deacon in 1914 and church treasurer 1918, serving in both offices to the present time.

He has always taken an active part in all the activities of the church and Sunday School and was elected superintendent of the school in 1921 and is serving in this important office to the present.

Deacon Stiffler has been unusually efficient in all the offices he has filled, giving prompt and strict attention to all details connected with such offices, and his counsel and advice in matters of church government are appreciated. The Sunday School has made very marked progress during his administration of the office of superintendent and was never so strong, financially, as at the present time.

Mrs. Stiffler has also been active in church work, having been baptized by Rev. F. B. La-Barrer in December, 1885, and has supported the church and Sunday School, as well as various societies of the church, actively up to the present time. Their daughter, Miss Nellie E. Stiffler, was baptized by Dr. S. E. Reading, and though not living in the immediate vicinity, still retains her membership with us.

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#### DEACON EDWARD M. SPATH

Was baptized by Rev. F. B. La-Barrer at the age of fifteen and was ordained as deacon in 1908.

Deacon Spath has been active in the church and school, serving on numerous committees, and has been a faithful attendant on the services of the church. All of his family are and have been active in the church work, Mrs. Spath being particularly interested in Mission Society work, serving as first vice-president of the Women's Missionary Society, and has also been actively interested in Sunday School work. Deacon Spath's daughter, Mrs. Madeline Yeagle, is first vice-president of the Philathea Class and is president of the Young Women's Aid Society. His son, Edward, Jr., is secretary of the

Sunday School and takes an active part in the work of the church. Deacon Spath's father, Anton Spath, also served as deacon of the church for many years; his brother, Anton, Jr., was also a deacon until his death a few years ago, and his mother and sisters were also active in the church work.

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#### DEACON THOMAS A. SHELTON.

Baptized in 1916 by Brother Charles T. Hewitt. Brother Shelton has been active in the church work ever since his baptism, having served on the Finance Board, Board of Trustees, and at present on Board of Deacons, besides having served on various important committees. He takes an active part in the work of the Men's Bible Class, seeing that everyone is furnished with the lesson quarterly for the day, and serving actively on the Sick Committee. Mrs. Shelton is also actively engaged in the work of the church, serving in the missionary societies, the Aid Society and the Goodwill Class in the Sunday School.

## HAMPDEN BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL

By MRS. INEZ H. FISHER  
(1874-1924.)

“THE RACE MOVES FORWARD ON THE FEET OF  
LITTLE CHILDREN.”

A glorious and mighty truth, and one that was realized by the organizers of the Hampden Baptist Church fifty years ago, for in 1874 a group of nine officers and teachers banded themselves together to train 102 pupils in our Hampden Baptist Sundry School, realizing there were

“Little Feet that linger at the threshold,  
Not knowing whither Life may lead them on,  
Eager feet that seek the far horizon  
That drifts between the darkness and the dawn.  
Needing just some loving heart to guide them  
To that pathway through the years—that leads aright;  
Then onward with a step that doesn't falter,  
To be Standard Bearers for the King of Light.”

How well this small band labored; how good the seed they sowed is shown in the fruitage of fifty years of labor, a school with about 500 active members, a teaching force of forty-nine, and average yearly collection (last four years) of about \$2,000.

Much could be said of the efficiency of our superintendents. We can judge how acceptably they served from the fact that there were but six superintendents over a period of fifty years. Mr. J. T. Benson having served twenty years of the fifty; Mr. D. G. Stevens, six years; Mr. J. H. Suter, Sr., seven years; Mr. A. H. Goering, eight years; Mr. Peter Snelling, one year, and Mr. J. W. Stiffler, our present superintendent, having been in office four years. There is no record of there having been a superintendent for the first five years, the pastor very likely filling this office.

To our mind the turning point in the school for more efficient teaching and training occurred in the year 1912 when, due to the urging of our pastor, Rev. K. A. Handy, the school was graded, and while it took a little time to get adjusted, we can see from then on a steady and firm growth in our school, a better understanding by our teaching force of the mental and spiritual change of the children as they grow older.

Our Cradle Roll Department takes care of the children from birth to three years of age. There are about fifty on roll under the care of Mrs. Irene Shearer and her helpers. Their work is to keep in touch with the babies, and to aid the

superintendent of the beginners by supplying a list of those old enough to attend Sunday School.

The children in the Beginners' Department are from three to five years of age. It is the aim of this department to lead the little child by helping him. A kind and efficient superintendent of this department is the wife of our pastor, Mrs. Edward Taber, one who well understands and studies the best in kindergarten methods. How it would gladden her heart to have the room and equipment needful for this department. What dear little wiggly, restless bodies they are, and how important that the impressions they receive here should be just the right ones.

"For no storm that raged,  
No thought that ran,  
But left its mark upon the clay  
That slowly hardened into man."

The children in the Primary Department are from six to eight years. The aim of this department is to lead the child to know God, and to inspire within him a desire to live as God's child. The superintendent, Mrs. Nettie Reese, and corps of teachers are, too, asking for more room.

The Junior Department looks after the children from nine to twelve years of age. There

the children are not only graded according to age, but also sex. This department aims to awaken an interest in the Bible and a love for it, to deepen the impulse to trust Jesus as Saviour and to obey His commands; to lead the boys and girls to become doers of the word, and come into conscious relation with Jesus Christ as their Savior. The superintendent of this department, Mr. J. H. Suter, Jr., and his teachers are asking for a departmental room and the equipment that goes with it.

We have a large Intermediate Department, ages from twelve to sixteen years, under Mr. Arthur Adams. He, too, with his teachers, would like a departmental room with proper equipment. The aim of this department is to lead to the practical recognition of the duty and responsibility of personal Christian living and to develop habits of Christian service.

The Senior and Adult Departments, under the leadership of their superintendent, Mr. Robert F. Williams, takes care of all those over sixteen years of age and is in a flourishing condition. There are a number of organized classes who do much personal service work; visiting the sick, relieving the distressed, helping the Baptist Home, sending out Christmas baskets, furnishing equipment for missionaries on the



foreign field, helping the Near East and other worthy objects.

But this is not all of the work of the school, for where a number cannot get out to the school because of health or home duties, there is our Home Department, ably taken care of by its superintendent, Miss Mary Higdon, and her helpers, who see that the lessons for each Sunday are placed in these homes where they are studied by the members of the Home Department and very likely by others in the family also.

We cannot overlook the work of our assistant superintendent, Mr. Isaac McDonald, who keeps ever before us our duty toward the sick and absent of our school and church.

The secretary and treasurer also attend to their duties so well that reports are ready when called for, bills paid before due, and literature on hand when needed.

Our present superintendent, Mr. Jack Stiffler, is the most optimistic man we know—no matter how feeble an effort one makes he is ready to pronounce it “fine”—so by now we are thinking of him as a “fine” man. He is always on the job, ready for opening exercises at 9:30 A. M., a cheery word and hearty handshake for all. Without his cheerful presence we would

indeed feel lost. May he be with us for many years to come!

The financial condition of the school is good, all bills easily taken care of. Not so long ago the Sunday School paid for the painting and furnishing materials for the decoration of the walls of the church room and vestibules; also purchased a \$1,100.00 carpet for the church room floor.

Much has been hinted in the foregoing paragraphs of the need of departmental rooms and equipment, and back of the hint is what? A fund of about \$3,000.00, which has been raised by the Sunday School as a whole and by its organized classes and departments as a nest-egg toward this very need. And now we are waiting only to find the proper location, and when we do, there is no limit to the usefulness we will be to this community, to the great number of children who are finding so much in the outside world to interest and influence them. Surely we should be up and doing to meet the unusual conditions of the present day and age.

The Sunday School is the feeder of the church; as the school grows, so will the church.

The church, as well as the race, moves forward on the feet of little children.

Hear the words of the Master: "And a little child shall lead them."

**OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL**

MR. JOHN W. STIFFLER.....	<i>Superintendent</i>
MR. ISAAC McDONALD....	<i>Assist. Superintendent</i>
MR. EDWARD M. SPATH, JR.....	<i>Secretary</i>
MRS. INEZ FISHER.....	<i>Assist. Secretary</i>
MISS EVA WHEELER.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
MRS. HATTIE PULLEN.....	<i>Chorister</i>
MRS. IRENE SHEARER.....	<i>Pianist</i>
MISS G. MOORE .....	<i>Assist. Pianist</i>
DOWNEY MEYERS .....	<i>Librarian</i>
WILLIAM WRIGHT .....	<i>Assist. Librarian</i>

**SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS**

MR. ROBERT WILLIAMS,  
*Supt. of Senior and Adult Departments*

ARTHUR ADAMS,  
*Supt. of Intermediate Department*

J. HERMAN SUTER, JR.,  
*Supt. of Junior Department*

MRS. NETTIE REESE,  
*Supt. of Primary Department*

MRS. LENA MARK,  
*Assist. Supt. of Primary Department*

MRS. KATHERINE TABER,  
*Supt. of Beginners' Department*

60 HISTORY OF HAMPDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

**SENIOR AND ADULT DEPARTMENTS**

MR. ROBERT F. WILLIAMS, *Superintendent.*

**TEACHERS**

MRS. SHEARER	MRS. GOSNELL
MRS. OREM	MRS. PULLEN
MRS. YEAGLE	

**INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT**

MR. ARTHUR C. ADAMS, *Superintendent.*

**TEACHERS**

MR. ERNEST VAUGHN	MISS VIRGIE WHEELER
MRS. GLEASON	MR. ADAMS
MR. G. SWARTZMAN	MISS KATE BERRY
MISS ETHEL BROWN	

**JUNIOR DEPARTMENT**

MR. J. HERMAN SUTER, JR., *Superintendent.*

**TEACHERS**

MISS RUTH OREM	MISS MARY HIGDON
MRS. HOTTELL	MRS. MEYERS
MRS. MABEL HALE	MISS EVA WHEELER
MISS ANNA MAY McCLELLAN	
MRS. CATHERINE DALZELL	

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT**

MRS. NETTIE REESE.....*Superintendent*  
MRS. LENA MARK.....*Assist. Superintendent*  
MISS MILDRED MATHEWS.....*Secretary*  
MRS. ESTHER RICE.....*Assist. Secretary*  
MISS ELIZABETH BAKER.....*Pianist*

**TEACHERS**

MISS FLORENCE RICKETTS  
MRS. LENA MARK  
MISS LILLIAN STAMBAUGH

**BEGINNERS**

MRS. KATHERINE TABER, *Superintendent.*

**TEACHERS**

*Beginners I—*

MRS. KATHERINE TABER  
MISS ELIZABETH BAKER  
MISS MARGARET BASSFORD

*Beginners II—*

MRS. MARGARET PULLEN

**SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME DEPARTMENT**

MISS MARY HIGDON  
MRS. ENGELHAUPT, *Assistant.*

**CRADLE ROLL DEPARTMENT**

MRS. SHEARER

MRS. FISHER, *Assistant.*

MRS. LAIRD, *Assistant.*

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**ORGANIZED CLASSES**

**MEN'S BARACA CLASS**

REV. EDWARD TABER.....*Teacher*  
JOHN E. OREM.....*President*  
J. T. BENSON.....*Vice-President*  
CHARLES MARK.....*Secretary*  
WILLIAM BUNTING.....*Assistant Secretary*  
JOHN C. HOSHALL.....*Treasurer*  
J. HERMAN SUTER, SR.....*Chorister*  
MISS ELIZABETH HARRIS.....*Pianist*

**YOUNG MEN'S BEREAN CLASS**

MRS. IRENE SHEARER.....*Teacher*  
MELVIN R. HOSHALL.....*President*  
RAYMOND E. WILLIAMS.....*Vice-President*  
CHARLES MUMAW.....*Treasurer*  
MILLS M. RICE.....*Secretary*

**PHILATHEA CLASS**

MRS. HATTIE PULLEN.....*Teacher*  
MRS. INEZ H. FISHER.....*President*  
MRS. MADELINE YEAGLE....*First Vice-President*

MRS. MOLLIE DOWNING...*Second Vice-President*  
 MRS. NETTIE REESE.....*Third Vice-President*  
 MRS. FLORENCE ASHLEY.....*Secretary*  
 MRS. ANNIE BELT.....*Assistant Secretary*  
 MISS LILA AYLER.....*Treasurer*  
 MISS MATTIE NOONAN.....*Assistant Treasurer*  
 MISS DOTTIE WILLIAMS.....*Treas. Flower Fund*  
 MRS. LULU ANTHON.....*Treas. Birthday Fund*  
 MISS SARAH GORRELL,  
                     *Treasurer Special and Building Fund*  
 MRS. NETTIE REESE.....*Pianist*

**GOODWILL CLASS**

MRS. OREM.....*Teacher*  
 MRS. W. CONOLLEY.....*President*  
 MRS. BREESE.....*Vice-President*  
 MRS. POWELL.....*Secretary*  
 MRS. SHELTON .....*Treasurer*

**AMOMA CLASS**

MRS. J. T. GOSNELL.....*Teacher*  
 MRS. BESSIE MENCHEY.....*President*  
 MISS NAOMI WILLIAMS.....*Vice-President*  
 MRS. HAZEL WARD.....*Treasurer*  
 MRS. GERALDINE ALDER.....*Secretary*  
 MRS. HESTER HECKNER.....*Assistant Secretary*

**FIDELIS CLASS**

MRS. GEORGE E. YEAGLE.....*Teacher*  
 MARGARET PULLEN .....*President*

MARGARET MATTHEWS .....*First Vice-President*  
 ALETHA KELBAUGH.....*Second Vice-President*  
 VERA VALDIVIA .....*Third Vice-President*  
 PAULINE PEREGOY .....*Secretary*  
 ODA S. BULL.....*Treasurer*

### DORCAS CLASS

MISS KATE BERRY.....*Teacher*  
 MISS MILDRED BUNTING.....*President*  
 MISS MARJORIE OREM.....*Vice-President*  
 MISS HELEN BASSFORD.....*Secretary*  
 MISS IRMENIA VALDIVIA.....*Treasurer*

### SICK VISITING COMMITTEE

MISS HILDA SWATZBAUGH  
 MISS MONTA BAKER  
 MISS KATHERINE TOMLINSON  
 MISS IRMA BELT

ORGANIZED .....*October, 1923*  
 COLORS.....*Blue and Gold*  
 MOTTO .....*"Willing Workers"*

### VALIANT KNIGHTS

MR. ERNEST VAUGHN.....*Teacher*  
 WEBSTER BUNTING .....*President*  
 EUGENE PARKER .....*Vice-President*  
 JAMES HARRISON .....*Secretary*  
 NORMAN HARE .....*Treasurer*



The Intermediate Department is composed of six classes. There are seventy scholars in the department at the present time, and have an average attendance of about fifty. The teachers are present nearly every Sunday. When the regular teacher is compelled to be absent they provide some very good substitutes to fill their places.

The Intermediate Department was organized when the Sunday School was graded under the ministry of Rev. Handy. Brother Arnold Goering was the Sunday School superintendent at that time.

There are many scholars in this department that are church members and who contribute to the Sunday School and church activities.

The Intermediate Department has more than doubled itself and hopes to continue to go on with this great work.

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### AMOMA CLASS

This class was originated in 1906, eighteen years ago, with four charter members. Mary James, Eva Williams, Madaline Spath and Alma Rutledge, under the instruction of Mrs. J. T. Gosnell, who except for a brief period of ill health, has been the teacher since its conception.

Through earnest efforts of these members the class grew to exert considerable influence and attain a membership of forty-two.

At this time Mrs. Gosnell was compelled to temporarily sever herself from teaching due to her bad health. This class was then divided by Rev. K. A. Handy and Mr. Herman Suter, Sr., between four classes in 1913 in order that the study may be carried on in graded classes. Class remained divided about one year, when Mrs. Gosnell was able to resume teaching. She came back to teach most of her old class, and then the Sunday School was organized by Rev. Kingman A. Handy and Mr. Goering, superintendent of Sunday School. This class, the first to become organized, was granted a certificate by the Southern Baptist Board on November 13, 1914, and given the name Amoma. The Amoma class at the present date, March 16, 1924, has a membership of nineteen, all Christians and a large number members of the church.

Our motto, "In His Name," was chosen by the class, and after we were organized and raised some funds we furnished flowers for the pulpit, and continued doing so until the World War, when this was considered non-essential. In its endeavor to live up to our motto, we help

others to help themselves, and spread sunshine through darkness by sending flowers to cheer the sick, contribute to such worthy causes as the Near East Relief, send money monthly to a student at the Virginia Intermot College at Bristol, Va., give baskets of provisions to unfortunate families at Christmas and Easter. Remember, through gifts, the guests at the Baptist Home, the shut-ins in the same manner. Visit those who are unable to attend church, either from sickness or age, and have prayer and song services with them. We answer any worthy appeal which comes to us.

Funds for this work are raised by weekly dues paid by members, and donations given us by those who think our work noble, and by our members selling candy.

We are going to continue serving "In His Name."

Respectfully submitted,

GERALDINE ALDER, *Secretary.*

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## THE PHILATHEA CLASS

By MRS. NETTIE R. REESE.

The Philathea Class owes its beginning to Mrs. Hattie Pullen. She has always had a wonderful class and it was under her leadership that they organized under this name in 1909.

For a number of years this class has supplied flowers for the pulpit every Sunday. In the last year they have contributed around two hundred dollars (\$200.00) to the various needs of the church and Sunday School. By means of suppers, socials, entertainments, etc., they have raised money to be used for our future church house. Every Christmas and Easter special gifts and offerings are sent to the Baptist Home. They send a delegate to the summer conference and pay all expenses. At the present time they are furnishing equipment for a missionary worker in China. This worker is Miss Grace Wells, of Tinsdale, S. C., who has been appointed to serve the Women's Bible School in Chinkiang, China.

Mrs. Pullen is the teacher of this class. She has been called the "Human Dynamo" and honestly does she deserve the name. She never tires in her work for the Master, neither does she ever forget to live Him and act Him and let the world see Jesus in her. One of her favorite sayings is, "Girls, when at last we stand before the throne of God, we shall not only be asked to give account of our deeds, but of our time as well." With such a leader to guide and direct, is it possible for this class not to accomplish great and glorious things in His name? They can't do otherwise than live up to their class motto, "We Do Things."

## THE FIDELAS CLASS

The Fidelas Class was organized February 20, 1919, with just a few members by Mrs. Charles T. Hewitt. Through her guidance, wonderful teaching and companionship it has grown into one of the largest of the adult classes of the Sunday School. They numbered sixty-five at the time of Mrs. Hewitt's resignation. They are a splendid group of girls, always ready to do their bit in any way they can, true to their class name, "Fidelas." Mrs. George E. Yeagle is at present teacher.

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## THE GOODWILL CLASS

The Goodwill Class is the original adult class of the Sunday School. We met in October, 1920, to organize the class; eight out of the twelve members of our original class were present. We made our plans and elected the following officers:

MRS. AIKIN .....	<i>President</i>
MRS. EDWARD SPATH.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
MRS. LEWIS POWELL.....	<i>Secretary</i>
MRS. THOMAS SHELTON.....	<i>Treasurer</i>

In the past three and one-half years of our existence the class has grown to the present membership of fifty. Our class song is "Help somebdy today." This is really our aim and work, visiting the sick, carrying sunshine and cheer to the shut-ins and in every way possible helping in the work of the church. This is after all our greatest pleasure and privilege as well.

MRS. JOHN E. OREM, *Teacher.*

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## MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

By LEROY HARRISON.

From the early history of our church the Sunday School has been a part. In the early days of our existence we held combined classes, that is, all the classes irrespective of age, we gathered together in one room, and the studies consisted for the most-part in the studying of the books of the Bible, the Lord's prayer, the Beatitudes and parts of the Psalms.

As we grew older, we felt the need of dividing the classes according to age, and not until the pastorate of Rev. Kingman A. Handy did we organize any of the classes, according to the standard as laid down by the Sunday School Board.

The seed as sown by this good man of God began to grow, and during his stay with us the Sunday School grew to be a very important factor in our church life.

With the coming of Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, added interest was manifested, and on Sunday, November 7, 1915, the present Men's Baraca Bible Class was organized, with thirty-three members. Limited space will not permit us to go into a detailed description of the good work done by this class, but it might be said that those who labored hard, day and night, can now rejoice in the fact that success has crowned their efforts.

The work did not stop at the attending of class on Sunday, but the works of charity as performed are best known by those in direct touch with this part of the work. We are deeply indebted to the men's class of St. Matthew's Evangelical Church for the inspiration and encouragement given us in our early youth.

The helping of others has not been termed charity by our members, but has been held as a sacred duty to our fellow man, whether of our church or not.

## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

### WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

MRS. HATTIE PULLEN.....	<i>President</i>
MRS. EDWARD SPATH.....	<i>First Vice-President</i>
MRS. EUGENE PARKER....	<i>Second Vice-President</i>
MRS. MEYERS .....	<i>Treasurer</i>
MRS. OREM .....	<i>Secretary</i>

### PRESIDENT BAPTIST HOME CIRCLE

MRS. PARKER

### PRESIDENT GOODWILL CENTRE CIRCLE

MRS. SPATH

### AID SOCIETY

MRS. INEZ FISHER.....	<i>President</i>
MRS. WILLIAM BUNTING.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
MRS. GRACE BASSFORD.....	<i>Secretary</i>
MRS. EMMA BAKER.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
MRS. EUGENE PARKER..	<i>Treasurer Flower Fund</i>
MRS. HATTIE PULLEN.....	<i>Pianist</i>

### SENIOR BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION

MRS. INEZ H. FISHER.....	<i>President</i>
MR. ISAAC McDONALD.....	<i>First Vice-President</i>
MISS ALETHA KELBAUGH..	<i>Second Vice-President</i>
MISS MARY HIGDON.....	<i>Secretary</i>
MISS ALETHA KELBAUGH.....	<i>Treasurer</i>



MR. HERBERT MUSTOE. *Corresponding Secretary*  
MRS. EDWARD TABER. . . . . *Pianist*  
MISS ANNA MAY McCLELLAN. . . . . *Asst. Pianist*

**INTERMEDIATE BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION**

J. HERMAN SUTER, JR. . . . . *Leader*  
GRACE SEITZ . . . . . *President*  
FRANCES WRIGHT . . . . . *Vice-President*  
ETHEL ALLEN . . . . . *Secretary-Treasurer*

**CAPTAIN CO. A**

MARY WRIGHT

**CAPTAIN CO. B**

CLYDE SEITZ

**JUNIOR BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION**

MRS. GERALDINE B. ALDER. . . . . *Leader*  
LOLA HOSHALL . . . . . *President*  
AUSTIN SEITZ . . . . . *Vice-President*  
ELIZABETH CONOLLEY . . . . . *Secretary*  
MRS. GERALDINE B. ALDER. . . . . *Treasurer*  
MISS HELEN McNAMEE. . . . . *Pianist*

**CAPTAIN GROUP 1**

GLENN SEITZ

**CAPTAIN GROUP 2**

LILLIAN HOSHALL

**Y. W. A. SR.**

MRS. MADELINE YEAGLE.....	<i>President</i>
MRS. INEZ FISHER.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
MRS. LULA ANTHON.....	<i>Secretary</i>
MRS. LENA MARK.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
MRS. IRENE SHEARER.....	<i>Pianist</i>
MRS. PULLEN .....	<i>Counsellor</i>

**Y. W. A. JR. & Y. M. A.**

MISS LILLIAN STAMBAUGH.....	<i>President</i>
MR. J. HERMAN SUTER, JR.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
MISS ALETHA KELBAUGH.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
MRS. CHARLES PEACOCK.....	<i>Secretary</i>
MRS. PULLEN .....	<i>Counsellor</i>

**BOYS' AND GIRLS' AUXILIARY**

IRMA BELT .....	<i>President</i>
HILDA SWATZBAUGH .....	<i>Vice-President</i>
CLYDE SYKES .....	<i>Secretary</i>
IRMENIA VALDIVIA .....	<i>Treasurer</i>
MRS. CHARLES MARK .....	<i>Counsellor</i>

**SUNBEAMS**

MRS. SHEARER.....	<i>Director</i>
MRS. INEZ FISHER.....	<i>Assistant Director</i>
LOLA HOSHALL .....	<i>President</i>
KENNETH SHEARER .....	<i>Secretary</i>
JAMES HARRISON .....	<i>Treasurer</i>

## MISSION SOCIETIES

The Home and State Missionary Society was organized in the early years of the church work, the exact date not being on record, by Mrs. Mary J. Suter, the first president, and others. This society and its successors have been of very great value to the work of the church in creating and maintaining interest in both Home and State Missions, as well as by direct contributions to the cause, in money as well as goods, sent direct to the workers on the home fields. The officers at present (1923) are:

MRS. F. D. PULLEN.....*President*  
MRS. EUGENE PARKER,

*Vice-Pres. in charge of Baptist Home Circle*  
MRS. EDWARD SPATH,

*Vice-Pres. in charge of the Goodwill Center*  
MRS. J. E. OREM.....*Secretary*  
MRS. EMMA BAKER.....*Treasurer*

The foreign mission work was organized by Mrs. J. J. Wicker, the first president.

## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION

By MRS. NETTIE R. REESE.

Around the year 1895 Miss Anna Armstrong, who was then head of the Women's Missionary Union of Baltimore, organized our own Women's Missionary Union, with Mrs. Sayre as first president. Originally the society contributed under three separate heads—Home, State and Foreign. Later, they were consolidated into one, and from then on have contributed as such.

About 1922 the society was divided into three circles, each circle having its own officers. The Home Circle, with Mrs. Parker as president, looked to the welfare of our Baptist Home. They contribute money, provisions and entertainment. The Goodwill Center Circle, with Mrs. L. F. Bull as president, has been very loyal in their support of the Center, both in finances and entertainment. The State Circle, with Mrs. Edward Spath as their president, attends the needs of the smaller churches in the State. They have furnished organs, books, communion sets and various other things to a number of churches.

Sometime later the Drop-stitch Society was organized. Miss Mamie McCleary was first

president. The object of the society at this time was to attend to the little things that the Women's Missionary Union left undone. It is impossible for any one society to accomplish all the work that comes within its scope. Thus their name originated "by picking up the stitches dropped by the older society."

Along about 1913 they were reorganized by Mrs. Hattie Pullen as the Young Women's Auxiliary, with Mrs. Lena Mark as president. For several years they have sent a delegate to the summer conference, all expenses paid by the society. At the present time they have undertaken to dress a Baptist orphan for one year.

During 1920 this society began to increase greatly. The younger members of the church were growing to the age when they were ready and more than willing to enter into the work of missions. After much consideration, Mrs. Pullen organized these girls into the Young Women's Auxiliary Junior. Now, in most all churches, we find societies for all the ladies; in fact, from children on up the line to the oldest ladies of the church. But the churches who have a Missionary Society for the young men are very few, indeed. When, just a short time later, a Young Men's Auxiliary was organized

in this church, it placed them in the position of being the only church with a Young Men's Auxiliary in Maryland.

At present, these two, the Young Women's Auxiliary Junior and the Young Men's Auxiliary are working together, studying missionary methods and fields preparatory to greater things in the near future. At the end of each meeting they all enjoy a social hour together.

Sometime during 1912, Miss Madeline Spath organized the Sunbeams. This society is for all children up to twelve years of age. In about a year a number of the girls passed the age limit; it was then that Miss Spath organized the Girls' Auxiliary. Later on the boys of the same age as the girls in the Girls' Auxiliary were organized as the Royal Ambassadors. It was not long, however, before they were reorganized, and from then on the two societies held their meetings together. - These societies study missions, and when the time comes for these boys and girls to shoulder the responsibilities now carried by the older members of the church, they will have laid a wonderful foundation on which to build their future.

## THE BAPTIST HOME CIRCLE

The Baptist Home Circle was organized in 1920 and has worked for the interest of the home ever since, especially looking after the one guest from our church in the Baptist Home for Women.

It has also raised \$200.00 to furnish a room at the home which will be known as the "Hampden Church" room. It also helps the church financially when possible.

### OFFICERS

MRS. ANNIE PARKER.....	<i>President</i>
MRS. ISAAC McDONALD.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
MRS. ALDER .....	<i>Secretary</i>
MRS. LYONS .....	<i>Treasurer</i>

## OUR B. Y. P. U.

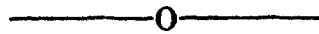
Organized in 1891, about the same time as our State organization, the Maryland Baptist Young People's Union, our Young People's work has always held an important place in the life of the church. As the Sunday School seeks to train the child in Christian truth and doctrine, leading him to conversion to the Christian life, so the Baptist Young People's Union takes up the training after baptism and seeks to train them in the active work of the church and to fit them to take their places in the various offices of the church and its affiliated organizations. Much emphasis has been laid on the study of Christian Culture for service, and we were for a number of years in the front ranks of the efficient societies in the State in these studies, having won the banner presented at the annual State convention for three consecutive years, thereby retaining permanent possession of it. In later years Intermediate and Junior unions have been formed for the younger members. Complete statistics are not available, but the following is a partial list of the presidents of the Senior Union:

1891 to about 1909.....J. H. SUTER, SR.

1909 to about 1913.....AUSTIN J. ARTHUR



1914 .....	GILBERT H. NORRIS
1915 .....	MRS. BERTHA KELLY
1916 .....	ARTHUR ADAMS
1921 .....	JOHN HOSHALL
1922 .....	ISAAC McDONALD
1922, Intermediate Union..	J. H. SUTER, JR.
1922, Junior Union...	MISS VIRGIE WHEELER



## OUR CHOIR

Music has always held a prominent place in the worship of our church and school. Although we have not had any professionals among our choir or congregation, our people as a whole have been very apt in learning new music, have appreciated the best in our regular church hymns and Sunday School Songs, and have not been backward in singing heartily and worshipfully. Our choir has made excellent selections from their several collections of anthems which were available, frequently rendering moderately difficult anthems splendidly. For a choir which has always been entirely voluntary, including the leaders who have served without salary, they have been very faithful, and most of the seats in the choir loft have

been filled each Sunday. We have always been particularly fortunate in having several excellent solo voices among our own number so that we have never had to go outside of our own church for our regular soloists or leaders. Among those who have served as leaders of our choir were Brothers D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. T. Benson, F. D. Pullen, H. G. Hillburn, J. H. Suter, Sr., and our present leader, Steven C. Hall.

Our organists have been likewise efficient and faithful, serving without salary up to the last two or three years, when a very small amount was voted for this purpose. Among those who have served as organist in the church are Mrs. Jennie Benson (nee Suter), Miss Mary Stevens (afterwards Mrs. La-Barrer), J. H. Suter, Sr., Mrs. Inez H. Fisher (nee Suter), Miss Elizabeth Orem (afterwards Mrs. Jett), and Mrs. Irene Shearer, our present organist.

While our leaders and organists have, as noted, served without salary, the church at each Christmas time remembers them with a nice present. At one time they presented Mr. J. H. Suter with a very handsome silver service while organist, and a valuable gold pen and pencil the last year of his service as leader.

**MESSAGES FROM FORMER PASTORS**

BY REV. JOHN J. WICKER D. D.

In May, 1895, I graduated from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and accepted a call to Hampden Baptist Church, Baltimore, arriving there the last of June.

I found the church in splendid condition, well organized and full of enthusiasm. The Sunday School and the young people were especially active, and we were received with characteristic cordiality and entered upon the pastorate with high hopes.

Great congregations filled the church to overflowing and hundreds were turned away for lack of seating capacity. The church voted to put a large gallery across the rear of the auditorium, but soon after this was finished we found we still lacked room for the people. The interior of the church was changed by tearing out the ceiling and heightening the auditorium to the roof, making the room gothic, and putting in side galleries. The added seating capacity was at once filled and no church ever did its work with more enthusiasm or a happier spirit.

The church was in a constant state of revival and the waters of baptism were troubled on nearly every Lord's day. The people worked with a will, and in the house of God they found their chiefest joy. It was easy to serve such a people, and pastoral visiting as well as preaching was a delight to the young preacher. There were no dissenting voices and the congregation was of one heart and one soul.

The spirit of missions, as well as the doctrine of tithing and stewardship, was not as prominent in the life of any church in those days as it has come to be after a quarter of a century. But the good women got together and laid plans for a larger work in the outside world. The people had a mind to give, and while not rich, in this world's goods they laid their gifts generously and joyously for every good cause on the altar of the Lord. Year after year the missionary contributions increased, and with the spirit of giving there was a growing in Grace.

They not only gave their money, but they gave themselves. All our people had to work. We had no idle poor, nor idle rich. Labor unions had not shortened hours in those days, and I well recall the deep devotion of our people, especially the so-called "working girls" who, after long weary hours in the factory in the long

summer days, could always be found on Wednesday nights in the weekly prayer meeting. I have travelled the world over and have seen many kings' crowns, but there were jewels in the congregation of the Hampden Baptist Church more brilliant and beautiful than any gem I have ever seen set in a Monarch's crown. To this day the very thought of the people in their devotion, service and sacrifice stirs my heart with admiration, gratitude and love.

All through the summer the gospel wagon with the little organ was on the streets and there was no trouble in filling the wagon with consecrated young men who would stand up and preach what Christ had done for them and exhort the people of the community to turn to the Saviour. Some of these have entered the ministry, and others have gone on in the ranks fighting for the King.

The deacons were a noble body. One instance will tell the story. An evangelist was assisting me in a meeting. He asked the deacons in a private room of the church before the preaching service to stand around him and pray. They did it. He then asked them to get on their knees and pray; they did it. He then called upon them to get flat upon the floor in very "sack cloth and ashes" with their faces literally on the floor and

cry to God for his blessing, and every man did as he was asked. There were some old men among the deacons and some lived a long way from the church, and at that time the streets were not the best, yet in all sorts of weather these faithful men would be found in all the services of the church with the zeal and abandon of youth. Many of them have gone to their reward, but their work abides, and their memories keep fragrant.

There never was a church where the pastor enjoyed a more reckless freedom. The people followed like the sheep follow the shepherd. They seemed to think that the young preacher would do everything exactly right. He even went to Europe without asking permission of the deacons or church. This was no credit to him, but an unmeasured compliment to the church. The pastor was as free as a wild colt in a fenceless pasture, and the people seemed to enjoy his reckless stunts. He remained pastor for a little over five years and it is due the congregation to say, that in the latter part of his ministry the wise brethren of the church in a most considerate and kindly way, would sometimes venture some personal words of wisdom for the guidance of the spiritual leader of the body.

One of the best things accomplished was a class of men in Christian doctrine, with Pendleton's text book and the pastor as teacher, meeting once a week. To this day, some of the best men in the church got their foundation fixed in the class. It was a course in systematic theology, and it made spiritual backbone and strong Christian character out of the students. I believe this would be a great thing for any church to inaugurate among its men today.

The records will show the number of baptisms and additions otherwise during this pastorate, but one of the most outstanding is that of a Chinese—Chu Foy. He was taught for a long time in Sunday School by the pastor's wife and his life after baptism was an honor to Jesus Christ. Like one of old, on the day he was baptized, he made a great feast and had a large number of the church people as well as Chinese as his guests. Multitudes knew him and loved him, and it will not be out of place to say that for several years he did the laundry for the man who baptized him and steadfastly refused to take a penny for the work.

November 1, 1900, closed this pastorate and I accepted the call of the First Baptist Church, Trenton, N. J. The years come and go, but the

fragrant memory of the happy years as pastor of the Hampden Baptist Church abide, and the many tangible tokens of the kindness of that good people oft remind me of those never to be forgotten days.

JOHN J. WICKER.

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BY REV. C. C. COX, D. D.

York, Pa., March 19, 1924.

It was my desire, and always has been, to "preach the word." The Holy Spirit is to "testify of Christ" and we cannot expect Him to do this work if we preach about science or philosophy, or the latest attempt to reconcile Genesis and geology. I have always held that one can have no more exalted ambition than to preach "Christ and Him crucified."

The day is at hand when we should not be satisfied with mere ethical teaching, but lay emphasis on the fundamental doctrines, and always remember that all matters should be conducive on the one hand and subservient on the other, to the great objective, the outstanding mission of a church of Jesus Christ, which is, without doubt the salvation of the world. Social service, education and every manner of



philanthropic work are necessary concomitants of the gospel, but the gospel itself is "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."

I recall, with great joy, a period running over several weeks, when every Sunday witnessed conversions. This was wrought by God, honoring his truth.

I have noted with great delight how you have prospered since my ministry—going forward by leaps and bounds—far surpassing in visible results the immediate outcome of my labors. "Herein is that saying true, one soweth and another reapeth." If others have built on another man's foundation, let us rejoice that that foundation is Christ.

May the blessing of God be upon you and the brethren.

Very truly yours, C. C. Cox.

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BY REV. KINGMAN A. HANDY

*To the Members of the Hampden Baptist Church.*

*My Dear Brethren and Sisters:*

As the record of our church will be handed down to our sons and daughters and the others who join them in perpetuating our work, I wish

to bear my testimony to the hearty co-operation and faithful support which made the successes of our service for the Master.

As I review the records of my long pastorate and live again many of the experiences through which we passed together as pastor and people my heart wells and my eyes grow moist as the scenes of joy and sorrow are recalled. The joy bells of Christmas, the gala and holidays, the seasons of sacred joy at the marriages and the sadness of farewells as we stood together beside the coffin and at the grave are vividly before me. If on these occasions I added a bit of joy or a little comfort, as you so frequently told me I did, I am happy in the memory.

Were I to call names the list would be very long, and it is unnecessary, for we were together in these experiences and the records of the skies will bear eternal testimony when we gather in the Homeland with those who have gone before.

We thank you for your patience and forbearing in love as we endeavored to minister to the chosen of the Lord.

Some of the little ones of those days are married and a new generation is beginning to meet in the accustomed places. I pray the richest blessings upon them all and desire ever to be

remembered as a pastor of the Hampden Baptist Church.

I became your pastor December 13, 1908, after serving churches in Yonkers, N. Y., and Salisbury, Md. The pastorate closed August 1, 1915, when I accepted the position of educational secretary of the Maryland Baptist Union Association. Mrs. Handy was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis A. Davis, of Baltimore, and the "parsonage" always had a cordial welcome for the people of the community. Three children were born during the pastorate—Marian, Francis and Kingman, Jr., Handy.

During the entire period I emphasized education, evangelism and harmony and peace. Service to the neighborhood was constantly suggested. In educational work the most striking thing was the grading and departmentising of the Sunday School in 1912. With the assistance of Messrs. Flake and Strickland of the Baptist Sunday School Board an institute was held, a census taken and the school graded with an addition of nearly twenty officers and teachers. With very little change this plan continues, and in every way has added strength and efficiency to our work. More than twenty diplomas were granted to the teachers and the equipment improved by securing tables and screens for the

three lower departments. Our first promotion day in 1913 was a very great success, both church services being given to this program. The work among the young people was advanced along standard lines also and the young people developed greatly. The Sunday School enrollment in 1908 was 180; in 1915 our report was 389, with forty officers and teachers.

Personal and general evangelism, with several special meetings, resulted in increasing the membership from 296 to 542; there being during this period 261 baptisms. There were three students for the ministry, Austin J. Arthur, Samuel S. Clarke and George W. Gorrell. These three are graduates of Crozer Theological Seminary, and are serving large fields in Virginia and Pennsylvania.

In 1913 the Pimlico Mission, which had been under the care of Deacon Arthur, was given to the First Baptist Church. This mission had been organized under the auspices of the Maryland Baptist Young People's Union when Deacon Arthur was president of the union.

In my preaching I endeavored to be thoroughly evangelical and evangelistic, always emphasizing the practical in religion, but based the best living on believing the truth. Our people grew steadily in religious decorum and rever-

ence. All services were conducted without sensation or undue excitement. Co-operating with the musical committee most heartily, the music was always characterized by dignity and worshipfulness. Baptismal and communion services were conducted with great care. These things reflected the most reverent and worshipful attitudes. In Sunday School and church services much emphasis was laid on the reverent spirit and contrite heart.

Personal work among the people of the community and frequent cottage meetings were held, supported by our young people and the musical members. Our choir and ladies' octette with the junior choir were effective at all times.

There was always the heartiest co-operation with denominational interests on boards and committees. I served as secretary of the State Mission Board, District Association and the Maryland Association as assistant secretary for a number of years, and also contributed to the denominational papers. Frequently contributed to outside interests in evangelistic meetings and as a member of the Angelus male quartet. Assisted in the organization of the Parent-Teacher Association at School 55 and was its first president, and served on the Board of the Recreation Center and was active in the community life.

Conducted over 100 funerals and about 75 weddings. Baptized Brother Gordon at the age of 85, probably the oldest recorded baptism; married Josiah Millard, aged 89 years, the oldest recorded groom in Baltimore city. There were twenty-five deaths in our membership during the pastorate, and sickness and distress of every kind required a large share of my time. The church, through pastor and deacons, ministered to a wide circle outside the church membership.

The teaching of missions was greatly emphasized and education was carried on systematically by literature and regular courses with stereopticon lectures. Biographical sketches were frequently given.

When I resigned to take up the Maryland Baptist Sunday School and Baptist Young People's Union work as educational secretary, the church presented me with a handsome 16-inch loving cup of silver. The cup was engraved with my favorite verse, Ephesians 4:13, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect

man, unto the measure of the stature of Christ Jesus.”

Mrs. Handy joins me in Christian greetings to all.

With brotherly, sincere memories, I am,  
Affectionately,  
KINGMAN A. HANDY.

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BY REV. CHAS. T. HEWITT

Martins Ferry, O., Dec. 11, 1923.

*Dear Brethren and Sisters of the  
Hampden Baptist Church:*

I am enclosing some notations of what I consider the outstanding events of my pastorate. Please do not consider any expressions in these notations as egotism. All that I refer to in these notations will probably appear in the minutes and statistical records of the church.

May I suggest that whatever credit you give for the seven wonderful years that I spent with you that you hand it to the noble membership of the Hampden Church and my dear wife, who is indeed by true helpmeet.

If I could be personal at all, I would point out a number of you brethren who, by your constancy and loyalty to the cause and me, made Hampden's success inevitable. It could not have been otherwise. I am wishing you the greatest success in the history of the church under your present leadership, and the Hampden Church is constantly carried to the Throne of Grace by this pastor of former years.

I shall look forward to the celebration of Hampden's fiftieth birthday, and if within the bounds of possibility at all you may count on the presence of Mrs. Hewitt and me.

#### EVENTS IN THE PASTORATE OF CHARLES T. HEWITT

1. Took up the pastorate October 15, 1915.
2. First step of importance, renovation of building, reconstructing and decorating of interior.
3. Sunday School commenced to grow rapidly.
4. Men's Bible Class organized. At one time largest Baptist class in Maryland.
5. During latter part of pastorate Sunday School reached attendance of 469.
6. Mrs. Hewitt, active in the work of the church, organized the Fidelas Class. Wonderful organization; never more prosperous than today.



7. The Woman's Bible Class and the Phila-thea Class were built up to their present efficiency and standing during this pastorate.

8. Three great revival campaigns were held during this pastorate. The E. Hez Swem campaign, the Mel Morris campaign and the Nell Mays campaign. All three were greatly successful.

9. This pastorate was decidedly evangelistic. Over 400 members were received into the fellowship of the church and baptisms occurred almost every Sunday.

10. On two occasions the pastor's undeviating stand for righteousness in the community claimed the attention of the city and State.

12. The pastorate closed with a harmonious and flourishing church. Mrs. Hewitt was a great help to the pastor.

13. One of the most notable features of this pastorate was the number of young people who enlisted for Christian service.

14. A few months before the close of this pastorate the church was recarpeted and the building was redecorated for the second time, costing around \$3,000.

15. During the seven years of Brother Hewitt's pastorate contributions for missions increased steadily until the seventy-five millions

campaign, when the church almost tripled its apportionment.

16. During the World War Brother Hewitt was given a leave of absence to serve as chaplain in the army. He was in this service fourteen months.

Sincerely,

CHARLES T. HEWITT.

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#### A MESSAGE FROM MRS. MARY F. LA-BARRER.

My father and mother had been members of the Eutaw Place Baptist Church before I was born. Shortly after my appearance they moved to my maternal grandfather's home, near Pikesville, Md. When we came to our home on Green Spring avenue, although we might have gone to their old church, my parents decided to cast in their lot with the members of the small, struggling mission of the Baptist Board at Hampden. This place of worship was fully two miles distant, but my father faithfully attended all the services, no matter how busy or weary he felt, and frequently he was really too tired to fare forth; nevertheless, he went. Often I was the only one to accompany him, even when I was

very tiny. How heavy my feet became traversing those two miles of field, wood, hill and unpaved, dusty streets up another long, steep hill, and at last to the church. The impressions of those walks linger with me to this day. Often in my dreams have I trod the same old way. On the homeward journey I would sometimes complain about the length of the path, but my father always cheered me up and told me "just keep putting one foot before the other" and by and by we'll be there," and we always arrived. The church was a small wooden structure, with a cabinet organ to furnish music. My father, who had an excellent musical ear, led the singing, while I frequently accompanied him on the instrument. J. Herman Suter was our real organist. I was assistant, while our mothers, who both had very sweet voices, helped swell the choir. Later Thomas Benson and Miss Rose Gladfelter added much to its volume.

I was but nine years of age when my late husband came to Baltimore as pastor of the church. The latter was not in a prosperous condition, and there was strife amongst its members, but with the assistance, prayers and helpfulness of the faithful few, added to his own forcefulness of Christian character, his tact, knowledge of human nature and winning disposition, the

membership turned over a new leaf. A gracious revival was held, and after a few years preparations were begun for building the present church home, completed in 18—.

I remember hearing my father say that when my husband first came to the church and realized the state of feeling amongst the people, he had those who were particularly inimical to each other to meet him in the church. They came, prayed together, agreed to forget their differences, shook hands and started afresh as Christian workers together. This state of affairs naturally precipitated the revival to which I referred above. I remember that my brother, Will, worked very hard in these services, his business giving him the opportunity to invite numbers to attend. I believe Napoleon Powell (a deacon, is he not?) was one of those influenced by him.

MARY F. LA-BARRER.



REV. DANIEL G. STEVENS, D. D.



MESSAGES FROM OUR BOYS WHO  
HAVE ENTERED THE MINISTRY  
FROM THE HAMPDEN  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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BY REV. DANIEL G. STEVENS, PH. D.

In these days of frequent removal from town to town and from State to State, the roots of a life find it difficult to twine themselves with any permanence about the institutions of a neighborhood. I have been a migrant. But it is a joy to have learned from experience that memories and loves remain after removal from one's birthplace and early homes, and that from the old soil the strengthening sap still runs to the spirit though time and distance deny the dearly loved physical contacts of the years long past. That the current surging up into me out of the "lang syne" of my boyhood is thrillingly strong I know, for often as I work, something—a word, a name, something that escapes naming—brings up a face, a scene, and for me is once more a joyous renewal of a way to which mind and heart gave themselves long ago.

No one will think me disloyal to the church if I say that most frequent recollections are of some few persons in it and of the countryside then not far from its doorway. That country nourished my soul. Perhaps the blight and the axe have removed the old trees, and the refuse of the encroaching city has choked the springs and the little streams that ran in the valleys, and the street lamps now make dim the lights in the sky of night; but for me the giant oaks and the chestnuts still stand, whispering with the breeze, thunderous with choral shouting of the storm-winds; the brooks still flow, laughing aloud at their leaps from moss-grown rocks to pebbly pools and murmuring to ferns and sedge, along their courses; and the great stars still burn in the heavens full of majesty yet so companionable to the heart of a country boy. I read the Book of Revelation today with greater joy and with richer understanding of its spirit and meaning because in those years gone by I transcribed upon my memory many pages from God's great book of nature.

All that was not the church at all, was it? But the boy that was thinking thoughts of these things was going to the church, and doubtless some things he heard or saw there helped him think, it may be, a little, for they read and



talked from the great Book there, and I was growing to be friendly with the Book; and how anyone can be on friendly terms with the Scriptures and not rejoice in God's out-of-doors, if it be open to him, is more than my heart can understand.

But, yes, there were persons in the church. Friendly folks! Many names have passed, faces have grown indistinct, but the memory of friendliness remains. A leader of a little prayer meeting suddenly asked me to pray for the first time in the old meeting-house. I dared to take a class of boys in the Sunday School. More daring still, I ventured to be their leader on a camping trip down the Patapsco; fortunately, the week gave out before any evil befell them. I wonder if I would believe I know enough boy psychology to attempt either work today. But those were adventures in friendliness for the boys and for me; and they were taken in my connection with the church.

Pardon me if I pay a son's tribute to the parents that loved me, and with old-fashioned Puritan piety gave me to God and to the ministry, and sacrificed to make my education possible. Wealth was not theirs to give, except indeed the riches of their own love and of their patient, faithful following of a hard, uphill road

of devotion to duty. I saw much of what they were and did while they were still with me. I have seen more and have understood better since God took them. My father invested himself in the church. The outlay of himself to keep the church alive and to make it strong irritated me sometimes; it seemed he sacrificed too much. Now I know the brave heart and the generous hand, and see a higher goal of character and worth before me in the personality of the man.

## THE FRAGRANCE OF MEMORY

BY REV. S. S. CLARK.

When Longfellow was growing old and felt the winter in his blood and brain, weary with the march of life, burdened with its losses and crosses, perplexed with problems that seemed to have no solution, when men proved faithless and woman untrue; to keep his soul afloat, to be assured that right would triumph over wrong, he opened the doors of memory and sat within her heartening walls and penned the following lines:

O, though oft depressed and lonely,  
 All my fears are laid aside,  
 If I but remember only  
 Such as these have lived and died!

So it is indeed heartening to remember those whom one has met on the pathway of life, especially if their smiles were pleasant, their words encouraging and their deeds uplifting.

He who fails to remember that all he is and has was given to him by loving hearts and thoughtful minds, and loyal souls, has really lived in vain.

For each of us are simply the production of mercy, love and thoughtfulness. We were born in an atmosphere charged with these benign attributes and all the glorious fruitage that they bring. On our arrival we found the once desert land abloom with fruit, flowers and grain which other hands sowed and cultivated, and we gathered the harvest. Ingrates we would be, if we did not on every occasion render due tribute to these noble-hearted souls.

It is in such a mood as this, with such thoughts thronging through my heart and mind, that I write a few words of what dear old Hampden Baptist Church meant to me.

As I go back over the few years that stand between me and that boy who first came to Sunday School, there are many dear faces that I love. How little do we realize what words we drop in the presence of boys and girls. How little do we appreciate their presence in our midst. The opportunity which was always afforded the younger members of the church has in my mind been, at least, one of the reasons for the many that have gone out into the work.

The prayer meeting offered ample advantages for prayer and testimony of those seeking to witness to the power of the gospel. The insistence of deacons that we pray or speak a



REV. S. S. CLARK



word was again a chance for us to exercise our talents.

The encouragement given when one had done his best surely gave zest for another try. I remember the first prayer meeting that I was asked to lead. I talked like a wild man and felt when I had finished that it was the most miserable thing ever uttered. As I recall it, now, I do not remember an unkind criticism made, all was most helpful praise.

However, criticism coming from those whom one knew were interested in you was to me most helpful.

The night I made my decision for Christ will naturally stand out in my life as the turning point of my career.

To show what a word from one in whom you have confidence and for whom you have respect will do, stands out clearly in my case. I was an usher, standing back at the rear of the church. Brother Benson came along and said, When are you going to make your decision? I had often thought of it, but had not surrendered. I began to think, and I doubt if I heard a word of the sermon. The question that arose within was, "Am I going to accept Christ tonight or not?" I fought throughout the sermon, but Christ won and I entered the fold. I feel that it was God's

hand that was laid upon my shoulder, and it was truly God's voice that spoke to me that night.

The loyalty, faithfulness and consecration of Brother Suter; his wonderful mother, Mary Suter; Brother Spath, D. G. Stevens and scores of others far too numerous to mention, have been a constant source of cheer and inspiration throughout my life. I feel that I am indebted to every member, and want to so live and work that they shall never feel their efforts on my behalf were in vain.

In my early struggles for an education there is one name that will ever be admired and beloved. Miss Mary McCleary, or Mrs. Gilbert Norris. Often when discouraged she lifted the cloud of doubt and dismay. Many and many a night she helped me find my way out of difficult problems. She appealed to all that was noble and good within me. Holding up before my mind's eyes the sublime heights of Christian manhood that I might reach if I would climb. I often think of her and wonder whether, as she watches me run the race, that she regrets her service in my behalf.

Of course, this paper would not be complete if I did not mention Uncle J. T. Gosnell and Aunt Lizzie Gosnell. For it must be remembered that it was through these noble people



that I met, courted and wed Miss Golda M. Howard, their niece.

I can truthfully say that Mrs. Clark has been a true helpmeet in the great work of the Kingdom. To her patience and forbearance and the grace of God I have been able to master old, carnal self. If there is one thing I crave, it is to be of service to my fellowman. That could not be possible as long as self held the throne of my life.

Hampden Baptist Church can truthfully sing with him who penned these lines:

“Bring me men to match my mountains,  
 Bring me men to match my plains,  
 Men with empires in their purpose  
 And new eras in their brains.  
 Bring me men to match my prairies  
 Men to match my inland-seas,  
 Men whose thoughts shall pave  
 A highway up to ampler destinies.  
 Pioneers to clear thought's marshland  
 And to cleanse old error's fen.  
 Bring me men to match my standards,  
 Bring me men.”

S. S. CLARK.

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BY AUSTIN J. ARTHUR

I did not unite with the Hampden Baptist Church until August, 1902, having been previous to that time a member of the Hampden

Presbyterian Church. But through the distinctive doctrines of the Baptists preached by all of the Baptist preachers, and especially through the personal efforts of Rev. S. G. Reading, I saw the truthfulness of the Baptist position, and finally united with the Baptist Church, Rev. H. C. Risner baptizing me. From the time I united with the church the church found something for me to do, for which I am profoundly grateful. Because of my relation with the Hampden Baptist Church I came into contact with the other Baptist churches of the city and State.

The direct cause that led to my decision to preach the Gospel was a statement, forcefully emphasized by Dr. William Russel Owen, at a meeting of the Middle District Association, held at Reisterstown. Dr. Owens' statement was, "Jesus Christ has commanded each and every believer on Him to preach the Gospel to every creature, and unless a man can give a conscientious reason and prove to his own mind that God has called him to do something else he is shut up to the one work of preaching the Gospel." The Holy Spirit used that statement to show me that the path of duty for me was the work of the ministry. And as far as I could see my duty then I can truthfully say with Paul,

“I was not disobedient to the Heavenly vision.” After making known my decision to the deacons and through them to the church, I was granted by the Hampden Church a license to preach. I then began a four-year course of study with the Crozer Theological Seminary, from which institution I have received by diploma. I was ordained by the Hampden Church May 14, 1914. Since that time I have had the pleasure of serving the Canton Baptist Mission for six months, the Capitol Heights Baptist Church for two years, five churches comprising one field, Falmuth, Hull’s Memorial, Bethel, Ramoth and Mountain View in Stafford County, for more than three years, and for over three years my present pastorate, of Upper King and Queen, and Mount Zion Baptist churches, King and Queen County, Virginia.

I have no reason, judging by the visible results, to doubt the wisdom nor the truthfulness of the interpretation of what I considered the direct call of God to preach the Gospel. I have had the privilege of baptizing 490 persons up to the present time. My present pastorate of two churches of more than 1,000 members is satisfactory in all respects.

My work in the ministry has been exceedingly happy, and has had the evidence of our Fath-

er's blessing. To whom all the glory be due,  
and gratefully given, by His humble servant,

AUSTIN J. ARTHUR,  
Indian Neck, Va.

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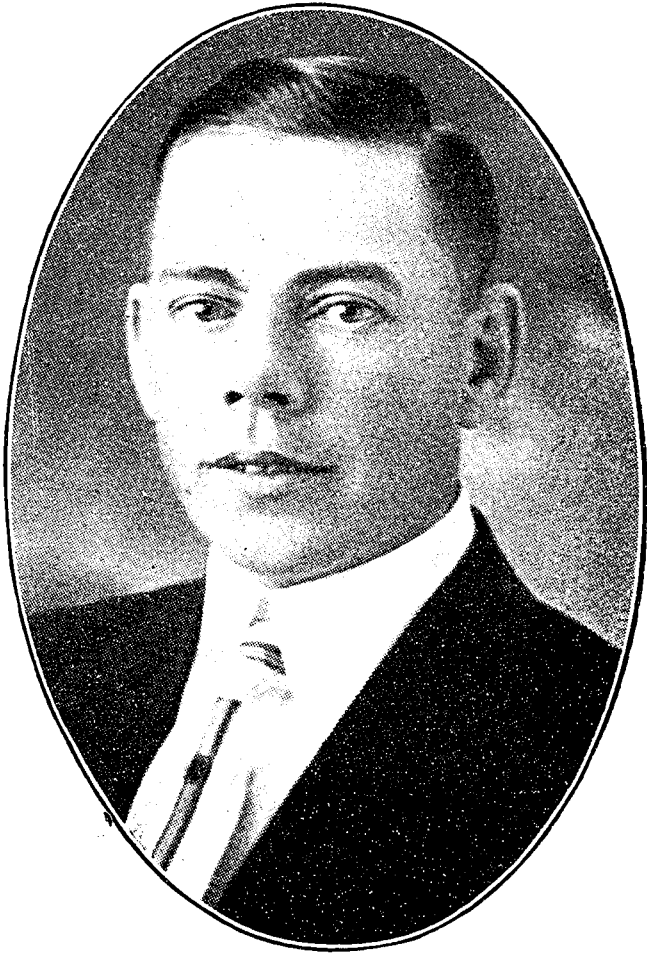
BY GEO. W. GORRELL

The first time I entered the portals of Hampden Baptist Church dates back more than a quarter of a century. I was first admitted to the Primary Department. Mrs. Suter was at that time superintendent. A few years here in learning the A, B, C's of my spiritual education has left an indelible mark upon life.

My next step was to be promoted to the "Big Room" under the tutelage of Miss Kate Berry, who at that time had a class of boys. I do not remember leaving her class until I was quite a young man. Her scholars were indeed in love with their teacher, and disliked very much to be graduated from that particular class.

I had but three teachers whom I can remember, the two mentioned above, these active teachers in the Sunday School, and my mother, who taught us at home of the eternal verities.

One part of our Sunday program always will be remembered with joy and pride. It was the custom for all classes to assemble in the main



REV. GEORGE W. GORRELL



Sunday School room for closing exercises. This program was about as follows: Song, by entire school; song, by Primary Department; verses of scripture, by primaries. Then our genial superintendent, Mr. J. T. Benson, had classes recite some of the psalms, repeat the books of the Bible, and other scripture exercises. We were well grounded in scriptures and many psalms and other portions were at our tongue's end, always waiting to recite them.

During the pastorate of Rev. J. J. Wicker, when I was at the age of 12 or 14, I was baptized, and later received into full membership of the church. In that pool, three generations of our family have accepted and acknowledged Jesus Christ as Saviour.

I continued to attend Sunday School and worship here until 1907. In September of that year I left Baltimore and was away for three years, still retaining my membership here.

September, 1910, I returned and found Rev. K. A. Handy as pastor. We soon became fast friends. Brother Handy was the first to speak about me entering into some definite Christian work as a life work. He suggested foreign missions, but I did not feel as though this were my work. So after many talks on the subject we decided on the pastoral work. Months had

elapsed before a final decision was reached. Like many others before me, I felt that the call was not for me, but prayer and meditation, together with Brother Handy's wise counsel, convinced me that I was called of God to "preach the word."

September, 1914, I matriculated at Crozer Seminary, Chester, Pa., as a student for the gospel ministry. I graduated June, 1917. Before I had graduated Mr. Handy resigned the pastorate at Hampden and was succeeded by Rev. Charles T. Hewitt. During Brother Hewitt's pastorate, May 14, 1916, I was ordained for the work of the gospel ministry. Under the leadership of these two kindly pastors I learned many valuable lessons which have served me well.

I was asked to tell what it was that lead me into the active ministry.

First of all, the Divine call, which could not be resisted.

Second, the influence and life of three teachers left their indelible mark upon my life and prepared me for the greater work. They laid their foundations deep in a childish heart, and in manhood others could build upon them. The fundamentals of the Christian religion were



learned, first at the knee of mother, and about the hearth in the evening.

In the Primary Department, under the teachings of Mrs. Suter; in the main school, under Miss Kate Berry. Under these three, such characters as David, Solomon, Isaac, Jacob, Paul, Timothy and a host of others were made real and to live in my mind.

Others doubtless have had a share in my education but these three are they who in reality shaped and moulded a life, because they were under the highest leadership.

Third, because of the first two reasons, another is presented, namely a desire, yea, a longing to do my share in winning the world for Jesus Christ. To usher in that new day when night shall be no more.

Hampden has grown since I first entered as a scholar. May God see fit to prosper her through many more years of active service for Him and for humanity.

March 12, 1924.

GEORGE W. GORRELL,  
Slippery Rock, Pa., R. D. 2.

Charleston, W. Va.,  
S. Charleston P. O.,  
March 13, 1924.

BY EARL L. GOSE

I was converted under the preaching of Dr. A. J. Fristoe while he was at the Hampden Church, and was baptized by Rev. K. A. Handy.

During the pastorate of Mr. Handy I was superintendent of the Junior Department of the Bible School.

I was licensed to preach on May 12, 1916, while Rev. C. T. Hewitt was pastor. I entered Crozer Seminary in the fall of 1916 and graduated in 1919.

I was student pastor at Williamstown, N. J., from January, 1917, to March, 1918.

I was the youngest man to enter or to graduate from Crozer Seminary.

I was ordained to the gospel ministry on June 1, 1917.

I accepted a call to the Havre de Grace Church and was pastor there for nearly five years, from March, 1918, to November, 1922.

I left Maryland to come to West Virginia, and since November 19, 1922 have been pastor of the First Baptist Church of this place.

My work has always been blessed and at present I feel that this place here will bring much glory to the Master.

On the fiftieth anniversary of the Hampden Baptist Church, I send my greetings. As a child I was in the Primary Department of this school, and owe much of my training to the good people who were teaching at that time.

I wish it were possible to be present and to extend a word of personal greeting, but trust this letter will answer the purpose.

With best regards to all in the church, I am,

Sincerely yours,

EARL L. GROSE.

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Hampden Church can well claim to be "The Mother of Preachers." We have always been blest with an abundance of material for leadership. One of our pastors on one occasion asked a brother minister to preach one evening during one of our revival meetings and he said he could not as it was his prayer-meeting night, and he did not have a brother in the church who could lead the meeting. Our pastor replied: "Why, I have a dozen." We already have six young men all in the ministry and doing successful work,

and at the present time (1924) three more are attending the University of Richmond, preparing for the ministry. They are:

C. EARLE HOSHALL  
SHERMAN N. McDONALD  
FRANCIS D. PULLEN

Bright young men who will, we are quite sure, be successful as the others have been.



EVANGELIST MISS NELLIE MAYS



## THE NELL MAYS MEETINGS

The Christian Church began in a revival. Every Evangelical denomination had its birth in a revival. So it is in the case of individual churches. They are born and kept alive by the revival spirit, the spirit which refreshes and inspires the Christians and brings life to the sinners. So believing as I do that revivals furnish us the most interesting chapters in the history of any church, I am glad to be able to give a brief account of the two revivals I had the privilege of taking part in at Hampden.

I am sure there had been much prayer before the special meetings began, for on the very first Sunday night (April 17, 1921) the Lord blessed the service. In spite of it being stormy outside, the church was filled, and the very atmosphere seemed charged with expectancy. So from the beginning, the faith of the people was not in vain. Several made a profession the first service, and many others took their stand for the Lord during the following services of the meeting. It was said there were at least eighty who were converted during the two weeks, but I'm sure that no one can estimate the real value of the revival. While it is true that many who take a public stand fail to live up to all that is required

of a Christian, there are others who, unknown to the world, have had their souls touched by revival fires.

Beside the splendid results in the salvation of sinners, I'm sure the revival was beneficial to the Christians. There was a prayer meeting held each evening before the service, and at this time a little band of Christians met to plead with God for the souls of the unsaved. Some of the members assisted by doing personal work in the meetings. The young people responded in a wonderful way, and supported the services by their presence and their interest. The congregation as a whole co-operated with Mr. and Mrs. Sheets, who had charge of the music, and made this part of the service very successful. Beside the special selections sung by Mr. and Mrs. Sheets and the congregational singing, a chorus of the young men of the church took an active part in several of the services. I might continue to enumerate other noticeable features of the revival, but I feel the insufficiency of a mere detailed account of *visible* results. Suffice it to say, God blessed, and I was so impressed with the spirit of the church that I decided to join them in their work for the Lord. So when I returned to this church on October 2, 1921, to conduct the Fall revival, I came as a member



of Hampden. An account of this second revival would be practically a repetition of the account I have just given. Mr. and Mrs. McCravey brought us some splendid gospel messages in song, and the majority of the people supported the pastor, Brother Hewitt, as well as myself, in our every undertaking for the Master.

I remember with joy the fellowship with the people of Hampden, but above all, I remember God's presence in our midst. My soul is thrilled when I think that everything good, everything real and everything lasting came from *His* hand. And when I would think of how worthless *our* very best service seems to be sometimes, I rejoice to know there was One in the meetings who was able to satisfy every longing of every hungry soul. There was One who heard every prayer, whether it was an audible petition, a broken sob, or just the silent plea of falling tears, an empty soul, or an aching heart. So I am humbly grateful that God walked among us, and I know that eternity alone will reveal the souls that were touched by His power during these two revivals. I praise God from whom all blessings flow, and pray that He will keep the revival fires burning in our souls that we may be true followers of Christ, and bring glory to His name.

NELL MAYS.

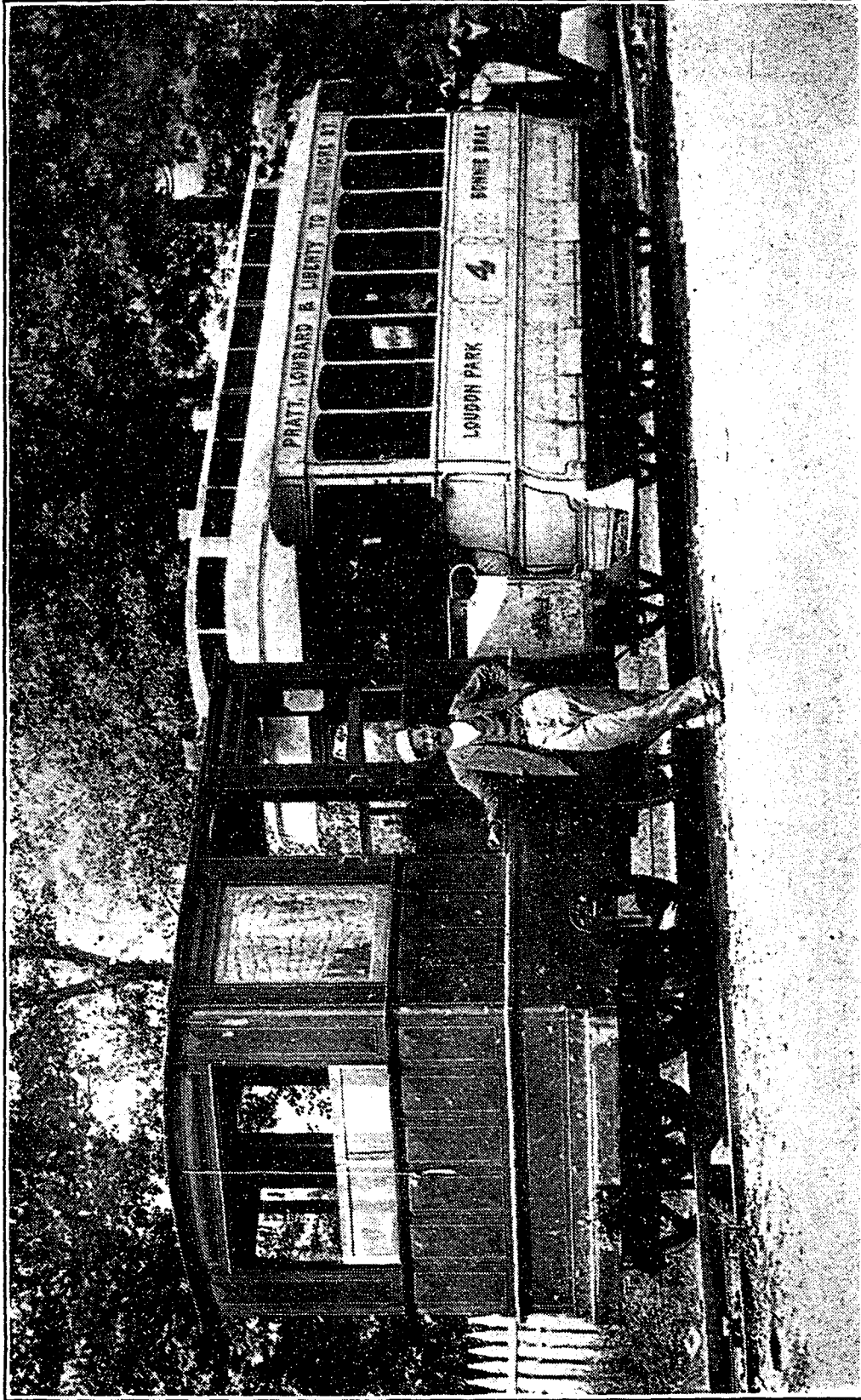
## PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND DOMESTIC INFLUENCES

By J. H. SUTER, SR.

When our church was first established, Woodberry and Hampden was little more than a country manufacturing village. No paved streets, no gas nor electric lights, no water except from pumps, no sewerage, no street-cars. The soil consisted mostly of a sticky clay, which became very adhesive mud in the winter and spring and dust in summer. The village was practically separated from the city by Druid Hill Park on the southwest and the almost impassable ravines of Stony Run on the southeast. Falls Road was the one highway, and pedestrians to the city either walked down this road to North Avenue to the street-cars or through Druid Hill Park. Occasional trains on the Northern Central Railway could be used by those living in the Western section of the village or by others who preferred walking to the train rather than to North Avenue. The fare on the Northern Central Railway was 11 cents, equal to about 25 to 30 cents at present-day value of money.

Being cut off from the city, however, threw our people on their own resources for entertainment and was largely instrumental in centering the social life around the churches, hence there were numerous socials, fairs, "exhibitions," etc. This tended to draw our people closer together, promoted unions between the young members of the church, and had a wholesome influence in keeping our membership in close touch with the church and has had much to do with our successful growth. The membership was largely employed in the cotton mills and in Poole & Hunt's (afterwards Poole Engineering Co.) machine shops, and our growth was largely dependent on the success of these industries. The Baltimore and Hampden Railway was incorporated in 1865, but did not begin operation until 1872. This line operated two cars running from Maryland and North Avenues to Thirty-sixth Street and Falls Road, cars running on a half-hour schedule, fare 6 cents. The terminals were later changed to Oak Street at Twenty-fifth Street on the south end and Roland Avenue and Merryman's Lane, Fortieth Street, on the Hampden end of the line. The motive power was horses or mules, usually mules. The cars were small, very uncomfortable, cold in winter and hot in summer. When the road was snowed

under in severe winter whether the cars were abandoned and open sleds used; these were little more than large boxes mounted on double sets of wooden runners, having a board seat along each side and straw in the bottom. The writer remembers distinctly being the only passenger one very cold windy night and having to sit down in the straw on the bottom of the sled with his umbrella open back of him to shield him from the biting wind. In 1885 the road made trial of an electric motor, using a third rail to carry the current, one of the old horse cars being attached to the motor. This was the first application of electric power for public transportation in the United States, and owing to the crude, primitive machinery and the steep grades which at that time were on the road, it was not very successful, and after about one year's trial the road again returned to the old faithful, if slow, mule as a motive power, and these were continued until the general adoption of electric motive power in the car itself, was adopted by street rail lines generally. In 1897 another line was started, the Lake Roland Elevated Road, running from Hampden via Cedar, Elm, Merryman's Lane, to Roland Avenue. This was afterwards merged with the Union lines, now the United. In 1896 an electric



THE FIRST ELECTRIC CAR TO RUN IN THE UNITED STATES FOR PASSENGER

CONVEYANCE, BALTIMORE TO HAMPTON—1885



line was started, running via Falls Road to Maryland Avenue at the bridge; this was extended to Mt. Washington, and later the route below Thirty-sixth Street was abandoned and the cars run over the present route via Thirty-sixth Street and Chestnut Avenue.

One of the interesting customs of all the Sunday Schools of Hampden and Woodberry is their annual picnic on the Fourth of July. Very early on that morning each school assembled at its church and, with bands playing and flags flying, the school marched with their friends, to their accustomed picnic grounds in the nearby woods, and there spent the day in recreation, sports, etc. The families brought their lunches, the school furnishing free ice-cream and lemonade for all and a general good time was had. Free transportation, in later years, was given for the very young and the infirm aged. This custom of the Fourth of July picnic is still observed, but as most of the groves have been cut down, Druid Hill Park is being used by nearly all the schools.

REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD  
OF THE MARYLAND BAPTIST UNION  
ASSOCIATION TO THE REGULAR  
YEARLY MEETINGS OF THE  
ASSOCIATION

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NOVEMBER 9-11, 1875

“This infant church has prospered spiritually, though its financial embarrassments have been great. The meeting house was dedicated in December, 1874, but unfortunately was not much more than half paid for. The members are generally poor, and the suspension of work at the neighboring factories deprived many of employment. The time of the pastor has consequently been much diverted to raising money. Notwithstanding this many have been converted during the year. Rev. J. H. Barnes labored with them from November 10 to July 14 with gratifying results. He was assisted by Brother Nelson in a series of meetings. At the latter date he resigned to return to his native State of Virginia. His departure was much regretted



by the church and the board. Rev. B. G. Parker was transferred from Hereford to Woodberry in July; at the same time he became assistant pastor at Pikesville, alternating between the two stations every Sabbath. He was soon greatly cheered at Woodberry by a glorious revival. On September 27 he writes 'Our house was crowded for weeks; many for want of room had to go away. About forty professed faith in Christ, of whom twenty-five have been baptized.' "

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. B. G. Parker, Pastor.—"This church has been depressed on account of indebtedness, but has been greatly blessed during several protracted meetings, in which nearly fifty persons were converted. Twenty-five have lately joined the church."

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. B. G. Parker, Harrison Watson, Daniel Wilhelm.

#### NOVEMBER 14, 15, 16, 1876

"Rev. B. G. Parker continued laboring alternately at Pikesville and Woodberry until August, 1876, when he resigned. Woodberry, Brother Parker regards 'as one of the most hopeful fields in the State.' The population is

large and rapidly increasing, though many are dependent on the factories for employment, and therefore somewhat fluctuating and in these times poor. On account of want of harmony between the pastor and some of the prominent members of the church, his usefulness here was seriously impaired and he resigned his charge. The place has since been supplied principally by brethren of the 'Lay Preachers' Association.' "

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

"No pastor since Brother Parker resigned in July last, the pulpit being supplied by the Lay Preachers' Association of Baltimore. At present united and hopeful. Have some debt on the church property which gives us some anxiety. House insured for \$1,500.00."

*Delegates to the Association.*—John Free-land, Thomas Wilhelm, John A. Evans, M. Wooden.

*Delegates to the Sunday School Association, November 16, 17.*—Thomas Wilhelm, Mary J. Suter, Mollie Wooden.

#### NOVEMBER 13, 14, 15, 1877

"The church at Woodberry was supplied by brethren of the Lay Preachers' Association and others until July, when Rev. A. W. Graves com-

menced his labors as missionary pastor. He found the congregation much scattered and the cause in a very languishing condition. For a time there was a very perceptible improvement. He labored to build up the church and the Sunday School and held a series of meetings in which he was aided by Rev. C. P. Scott, of Virginia. But the peculiar discouragements connected with the field were such that Brother Graves has concluded to resign.”

No letter to the association received from the church.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Thomas Wilhelm.

#### NOVEMBER 12, 13, 14, 1878

“At Woodberry, after the resignation of Brother A. W. Graves, Brother A. B. Johnson, a member of the ‘Lay Preachers’ Association,’ supplied the pulpit regularly, aided for a short time in a protracted meeting by Rev. J. H. Barnes and Rev. H. J. Chandler. On April 1, 1878, at the request of the church, Brother Johnson was appointed as missionary at a small salary. He has been crippled in his labors by the necessity of residing in the city and engaging in secular employment for his support. The church has also been seriously troubled by in

ternal dissensions, but these are now happily at an end and the Lord had added to the church by baptism several valuable members. Let us hope the way has been prepared for a glorious work in the future.”

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

A. B. Johnson, supply. Comparative success and prosperity. Brother Johnson has preached and labored faithfully. The Sunday School is increasing in members and interest. Prayer meetings are better attended than formerly. During a recent revival four were added to the church. Contributed to the association, \$10.00; Building Loan fund, \$2.00; pledged to the association for the following year, \$10.00; membership, 49.

*Delegates to the Association.*—A. B. Johnson, Harrison Watson, John Freeland.

#### NOVEMBER, 1879

“Brother A. B. Johnson has continued at Woodberry and has enjoyed many tokens of the Divine favor, the church having been harmonious and interested in the work and quite a number of conversions having occurred. During the spring Rev. J. H. Barnes, of Virginia, aided our missionary in a protracted meeting. In

such a community it is very important to avoid creating undue excitement and also to enforce strict discipline. We are pleased to know that such has been the course pursued here. With sorrow, we add that Brother Johnson's health has suffered from his being obliged to labor in the city for the support of his family in addition to his studies and toils in the mission field."

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. A. B. Johnson, of Franklin Square Church, has preached regularly, faithfully and acceptably, and the church desires that he be ordained. Sunday School is growing in interest and efficiency. Special services during the year by Brothers Johnson and Barnes. Church awakened and six conversions.

*Delegates to the Association.*—A. B. Johnson, D. G. Stevens.

**NOVEMBER, 1880**

"At Woodberry Brother A. B. Johnson continued his valuable labors from the date of the last association until February 10, when Rev. Samuel Saunders took charge. Brother Saunders found the church in most excellent condition, 'united, harmonious and with a mind to work,' and he bears testimony to Brother Johnson's prudence and faithfulness in securing this

result. He held a series of meetings in April last. The hot weather had a serious effect in diminishing his congregations and he speaks of the house of worship as an obstacle to the progress of the church there, being the poorest in the place. It has recently been painted and made more attractive.”

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. Samuel Saunders, Pastor.—Our membership small and some of them take but little interest in the church. We held a protracted meeting last Spring, five additions to the church being the result. The Sunday School is growing and teachers generally faithful.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. Samuel Saunders, John Freeland, D. G. Stevens, Harrison Watson.

#### NOVEMBER, 1881

“At Woodberry Rev. Samuel Saunders continued until the first of July when he resigned to accept a call from a church in Washington. He reported ‘the cause looking up and prospects hopeful.’ Four were baptized by him as the fruit of the meetings in which he was aided by Brother English. In nearly all his monthly reports he repeated a most earnest plea for competent teachers from the city churches. We

quote his language, hoping it may induce some to heed the Macedonian cry. He says 'Cannot cultivated and consecrated men and women be found in some of the large churches who will give themselves to this work? Cannot some be constrained to engage in such missionary effort by the love of Christ? If any come it must be purely for Christ and for souls. But here is an open door for any imbued with the great Apostle's spirit.' Who will enter it?"

"Rev. Charles A. Harris succeeded Brother Saunders, entering upon the pastorate July 25. In his report he says, 'a comparison with the condition of things three months ago shows larger congregations, larger Sunday School, more enthusiasm, devotion and spirituality.' The church building has lately been painted, but it sorely needs other improvements to make it attractive and comfortable. Brother Harris has baptized five candidates and is successfully seeking to maintain system in benevolent operations and a renewed interest in missions."

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

"Better spiritual condition than for some years. The State Evangelist assisted in a meeting held last January and five members were added. Rev. Charles A. Harris has succeeded

Rev. Samuel Saunders as pastor. The interest is increasing and congregations improving in numbers. The Sunday School is also busy. We are trying to perfect a plan for systematic giving. Frame building cost \$3,000.00; recently renovated and insured."

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. Charles A. Harris, D. G. Stevens, Lee Sturgis.

#### OCTOBER, 1882

Woodberry — the Baptist cause at this point was greatly advanced under the excellent preaching and pastoral work of our missionary, Rev. Charles A. Harris. The attendance increased largely, the Sunday School put on new vigor, the house of worship was made more attractive within and without, and conversions occurred from time to time until twenty-seven had been baptized and added to the church, when greatly to our regret Brother Harris' health gave way, and on June 25 he presented his resignation, which was reluctantly accepted. Since then the church had no pastor until August 27, when Rev. A. S. Flock, of Allentown, N. J., a graduate of Crozier seminary, accepted the charge.



## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Spiritual condition improved and many souls added to the church. Rev. Charles A. Harris, our pastor, was obliged to resign in June on account of ill health. Brother A. S. Flock entered the pastorate August 20. Prospects encouraging.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. A. S. Flock, John Freeland, Harrison Watson, J. H. Suter, D. G. Stevens.

## OCTOBER, 1883

Woodberry—Rev. A. S. Flock has preached regularly except for a brief Summer vacation. The house of worship has been re-painted within and without, and a good Sunday School library secured and the Sunday School increased. Souls were converted during a series of meetings in November last, during which Brother English assisted the pastor. Recently there have been cheering signs of a revival and some have expressed concern. Brother Flock reports forty-eight weeks, 100 sermons, forty-three prayer meetings, 332 visits and seventeen added to the church, eleven being by baptism.

## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Hampden, Woodberry, Rev. A. S. Flock, pastor. Church prosperous, gradually gaining in strength and numbers. Prayer meetings well attended. Sunday School prosperous. Repairs to building at cost of \$150.00.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. A. S. Flock, John Freeland, J. H. Suter, D. G. Stevens.

## OCTOBER, 1884

The only church aided by the board in Baltimore County is at Woodberry or Hampden, about two miles north of the city, where Rev. A. S. Flock labored as missionary until June 4, when he resigned. Congregations were at times good, at other times small. The church has been without a pastor since his resignation. There is a very large population in that vicinity and it is most important that our cause should be vigorously supported there. Statistics: Weeks, 30; sermons, 56; prayer meetings, 38; visits, 168; addresses, 15; tracts, 2,000; baptized, 1.

## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Brother Flock resigned in May. Pulpit supplied by others regularly since. Membership not all faithful to duty and a general decline report-

ed. But with a good pastor the field is considered a hopeful one. Have just called Rev. F. B. La-Barrer.

*Delegates to the Association.*—John Freeland, Harry Wooden, J. H. Suter, D. G. Stevens.

### OCTOBER, 1885

Brother La-Barrer began his work December 1, 1884, and found the church in a very low condition; the congregation a mere handful and many members alienated and scattered. Since that time the faithful have rallied around him and discipline has been exercised, extra meetings held and an increase of interest exhibited. Owing to the dull times a number of the best members removed and it required great self-denial and effort on the part of the church to meet its obligations. He writes: "The spirit of devotion and faith exhibited by this little band in the face of many discouragements is inspiring." Statistics: Weeks, 46; sermons, 124; prayer meetings, 79; visits, 393; tracts, 100; lectures, 54; baptisms, 2.

## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Congregations increasing, harmonious, spiritual condition; Sunday School improving; finances systematic.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, John Freeland, D. G. Stevens, J. H. Suter, W. S. Bunting.

## OCTOBER, 1886

Rev. F. B. La-Barrer has been missionary pastor at Woodberry or Hampden throughout the year. The church has enjoyed a remarkable revival. The work commenced soon after our last association meeting and has continued with more or less interest to the present time. The pastor was occasionally assisted by Rev. Joseph Price and others from the city. Nearly every month the report was the same—"The Lord is with us in converting power." The meetings were free from all excitement and sensational methods. Many heads of families were brought in and some instances entire families. The church has been much more than doubled in members and efficiency. It has entered with zeal upon a mission work at Remington Place and its meetings continue to be "well attended, spiritual, refreshing and fruitful." Brother La-

Barrer was called in the midst of this precious season, to suffer affliction in the death of two promising children. He made several visits to Forest and Hereford, where he preached and baptized. Statistics: Weeks, 52; sermons, 186; prayer meetings, 120; visits, 715; addresses, 80; tracts, 210; Bibles, 16, Testaments, 16; baptized 86.

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Spiritual condition excellent. Enjoyed a revival in the early spring, assisted by Brother Joseph Price and others, resulting in the conversion of over seventy souls; congregations increased; Sunday School in good condition. Opened a mission at Remington Place. Finances conducted with system and excellent results. Meeting house frame, seating 300, repaired at a cost of \$77.00. No debt on it and is insured. "The Lord has wonderfully blessed the labors of our pastor and our numbers have nearly tripled in the past year."

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, D. G. Stevens, W. H. Wooden, John Freeland, William Stevens, Thomas Wilhelm, Samuel Davis.

#### OCTOBER, 1887

Hampden—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer reports that the past year has been one of the best in the

history of the church. Fifty-one additions have been made, forty-four by baptism. Brother La-Barrer has worked faithfully and the brethren and sisters have co-operated with him heartily. Besides the usual expenses they have raised \$600.00 to repair their house of worship. The church has now a reasonable expectation of becoming strong and influential as compared with its past.

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

The spirit of God present in power. Number increased and spiritual strength renewed. Pastor's labors blessed of God. Congregations good and Sunday School in good condition. House undergoing repairs.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, J. H. Suter, W. A. Stevens, D. G. Stevens, William Neale, W. H. Wooden.

#### OCTOBER, 1888

Membership last year 250, now 254; baptisms, 50; contributors, 180; congregations, 300. Another year of wonderful spiritual blessing has attended the labors of this consecrated and faithful missionary. The boundaries of growth here are limited only by the seating capacity of the house of worship, which cannot hold those

who desire to attend services. The church has suffered by the removal of some of its workers to the city. Circumstances have caused the mills in which many of the members are employed to run on short time, and this has had a serious effect on their finances. The church faithfully practices the financial system. Brother La-Barrer reports that he has spent a great deal of time and labor in pushing the plan of self-support, recommended in circular letter for July, and as a result reports \$833.46 pledged for pastor's support and about \$60.00 for the Board. This shows an improvement over last year of \$183.46 for the pastor and \$10.00 for the Board. They hope in another year to be independent of the Board.

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, Pastor.—Recipients of many blessings, but sorely afflicted in the loss of valuable members. Pastor labored faithfully and energetically. Revival now in progress and several baptized. Sunday School in good condition.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, John Freeland, D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. Thomas Benson, Anton Spath, Thomas Wilhelm, William Neale, W. F. Hughes.

## OCTOBER, 1889

Hampden—No church aided by the Board has shown a better record. The Divine blessing has continued to rest upon them during the past year and they have not only prayed for, but contributed to all the benevolent objects we foster. The membership are poor in this world's goods; the wretched condition of their building called for continual outlay for repairs. At the request of the Board this church was incorporated during the past year and the church lot leased to them by this Board at an annual rental of \$42.00. The expense of incorporation, lease, lawyer's fees, etc., have all been paid. A debt of \$100.00 was paid off on the first Sunday in October and now expressing thanks for the past aid, they declare themselves willing to attempt self-support if the Board will allow them to retain what they have been in the habit of giving to State Missions; the ground rent will be paid. In announcing this fact the Board would emphasize the necessity of aiding this church to provide a new house of worship; the cause of truth and righteousness demand this.

For years the church has steadily advanced in the face of difficulties the trying and discouraging character of which are known only by the workers in the field. Has not the time come to



say to these brethren and their devoted pastor, "Arise and build and we will stand by you." The possibilities of this field seem to be only limited by the size of their meeting house. Membership last year 254, now 274; contributors, 200; average congregations, 300.

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

Held extra services during winter with encouraging results. Spiritual condition of church fair. Average attendance and increased interest. One student for the ministry. Financial system productive of very satisfying results. Although expenses have been much heavier than the preceding year, we close the year free of debt through self-denial and liberality of members.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, Anton Spath, D. G. Stevens, Sr., John Freeland, Robert A. King, W. H. Wooden, W. H. Wheeler, J. Thomas Benson, Elija Dorsey.

#### OCTOBER, 1890

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, Pastor.—For the year closing, the spiritual condition of the church has been fair. Several additions to our membership resulted from extra meet-

ings. A systematic plan of raising finances by the envelope system has produced its usual good results. The first year of this independence has been one of peculiar trial. We have, in addition to self-support, been engaged in building a new house of worship. The church is at present worshiping in a large hall, but suffer great inconvenience. We are anxiously awaiting the completion of our new building, a large two-story granite structure, which the Church Extension Society is aiding us in building. The wife of our devoted pastor has recently been called to her reward and we bespeak the sympathy and prayers of the Lord's people for him and his flock.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. Thos. Benson, J. H. Suter, E. N. Dorsey, Anton Spath, W. H. Wooden.

**OCTOBER, 1891**

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, Pastor.—A year of earnest work on the part of pastor and people. The new building has been completed and thoroughly furnished at a cost of \$16,000.00, including the lot. The greater part of the cost was generously furnished by the Baltimore Baptist

Church Extension Society. The wisdom of the enterprise is now apparent, the large auditorium being frequently taxed to its utmost capacity with earnest listeners to the Word. Spiritual condition good. Heavily burdened financially. Have raised in addition to running expenses, \$3,000.00 for the church building and furniture.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, J. Thos. Benson, D. G. Stevens, Sr., D. H. Watson, John McDonald, W. H. Wooden, H. Freeland, Robert King.

### OCTOBER, 1892

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, Pastor.—Value of building, \$14,000.00; debt, \$2,000.00; insurance, \$8,000.00; other property, \$2,000.00.

Spiritual condition good. Holding special services now. Seventeen members added to the church; congregations increasing. Prayer meetings maintain their interest. Use the envelope system. In better financial condition than ever before.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer D. G. Stevens, Sr., John Freeland, J.

Thos. Benson, J. H. Suter, L. N. Powell, W. H. Wheeler, J. F. Horton, R. Simonds, D. Watson, D. G. Stevens, Jr.

**OCTOBER, 1893**

DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, Pastor.—Spiritual condition good. Extra services twice during the year with encouraging results. Congregations increasing. Prayer meetings profitable. Envelope system keeps finances in good order. Young People's Association doing good work.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, John Freeland, D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. Thos. Benson, J. H. Suter, L. N. Powell, D. H. Watson, W. H. Wooden, H. Freeland, Z. Ball, D. G. Stevens, Jr. *Alternates.*—J. Ray, W. S. Neale.

**OCTOBER, 1894**

DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. F. B. La-Barrer, Pastor.—Spiritual condition good; extra services held with increased interest on the part of some. Congregations about the same as at last annual meeting and also the usual interest in the prayer meetings. Have one student for the ministry. We work

the envelope system and it would prove excellent if all would contribute. Pastor resigned September 19, and we have not yet called another. Our Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. are flourishing.

*Delegates to the Association.*—John Freeland, J. Thos. Benson, D. G. Stevens, Sr., L. N. Powell, W. H. Wheeler, J. H. Suter, W. H. Wooden, Wm. Neale, Wm. Freeland, David Watson, Harry Freeland.

### OCTOBER, 1895

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. J. J. Wicker, Pastor.—Spiritual condition excellent. Revival meetings with Brother J. T. Edmonson and our present pastor were attended with glorious results. Congregations overflowing. Have one theological student. Envelope system works well.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. J. J. Wicker, J. Thos. Benson, D. G. Stevens, Sr., John Freeland, W. H. Wheeler, L. N. Powell, W. H. Wooden, J. H. Suter, Wm. Freeland, D. Watson, Wm. Houser, John Stevens, Robert Williams, L. F. Bull, C. E. Kemp.

OCTOBER, 1896

## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. J. J. Wicker, Pastor.—Spiritual condition of the church excellent. Held series of meetings. There have been about 400 professions of faith during the past year. Congregations increased. Prayer meetings about the same as last year. One student for the ministry. Use envelope system with fairly good results. Since last association a gallery seating about 150 has been built across the rear of the auditorium, but this is inadequate to seat the congregation. Side galleries with a seating capacity of 225 being built. The outlook is exceedingly bright. We invite the association to meet with us next year.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. J. J. Wicker, John Freeland, Geo. G. Tyler, D. G. Stevens, Sr., L. N. Powell, J. Thos. Benson, J. H. Suter, Anton Spath, W. N. Feddeman, John Stevens, W. F. Chenowith, W. H. Wooden, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. J. J. Wicker, Mrs. A. Appleby, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. M. Lashear, Miss Ella McFaul.

**OCTOBER 26, 27, 28, 1897***Association Meeting With the Hampden Church*

## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. J. J. Wicker, Pastor.—Spiritual condition never better. Extra services held, with Rev. E. H. Swem preaching, two weeks and meeting still in progress. Brother R. M. Green assisting pastor. Large congregations and interesting prayer meetings. Good collections. Pastor and people united. Bright prospects.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. J. J. Wicker, J. Thos. Benson, J. H. Suter, John Freeland, D. G. Stevens, Sr., C. E. Kemp, F. D. Pullen, Wm. Houser, John Stevens, D. H. Watson, John McDonald, Anton Spath, J. N. Noel, Geo. G. Tyler, L. F. Bull, F. J. King, L. N. Powell, Wm. Chenowith, Jos. Tracey, Chas. Hough, W. A. Stevens, J. H. Eppers, John Ray, Wm. Freeland, C. H. Freeland, W. H. Wooden, Robt. Williams.

**OCTOBER, 1898**

## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. J. J. Wicker, Pastor.—Report a year of great spiritual progress; not so many additions, but much spiritual gain. Have held extra services, good profitable meetings. Congregations

increased. One student for the ministry. We employ the envelope system in our collections with excellent results. Have been clearing our church roll by exclusions and dropping of names. Missionary contributions have increased. Church building greatly improved by interior renovation.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. J. J. Wicker, F. D. Pullen, D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. Thos. Benson, Wm. E. Houser, W. E. Freeland, Anton Spath, Sr., Edw. Spath, W. H. Wooden, J. Belt, H. C. Strong, R. Lyon, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. Mamie G. Lyon, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. Annie Appleby, Mrs. J. J. Wicker, Miss Rose Gladfelter, Miss Ella McFaul, Miss Lila Ayler.

#### OCTOBER, 1899

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. J. J. Wicker, Pastor.—During the past year we have had every reason to thank God for His blessings. Our church is in excellent spiritual condition. Extra meetings were held in April and October with excellent results. Many confessed Christ and were added to the church. Congregations increased. Prayer meetings about the same interest. Have one student for the ministry. Envelope and chart systems of



finances working satisfactorily. The church is full of hope and the future is bright. Our young people are anxious to know more of the Word of God and the pastor teaches the Christian Culture Class. Pastor and people are heartily united and the work is prospering. The church very much desires to pay off its debt of \$2,000.00 during the coming year. We trust we shall have the sympathy and aid of the denomination in this matter.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. J. J. Wicker, D. G. Stevens, Sr., Chu Foy, J. Peregoy, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. Annie Appleby, Mrs. J. J. Wicker, Mrs. Edw. Spath, Mrs. W. F. Ambrose, Mrs. C. E. Kemp.

#### OCTOBER, 1900

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. J. J. Wicker, Pastor.—Ours has been a work of development of Christian character and we have grown in grace. Have held no extra meetings. Our morning congregations have increased. The interest in the prayer meetings is about the same. We report one student for the ministry. No mission station. Use the envelope system in our finances with fair results. Are making special efforts to buy our ground, and

with a little aid from our brethren to supplement the liberal subscriptions from our members we can accomplish this object.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. J. J. Wicker, D. G. Stevens, Sr., W. F. Ambrose, J. Thos. Benson, P. W. Potts, Mrs. Edw. Spath, Mrs. W. F. Ambrose, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. J. J. Wicker, Miss Lila Ayler, Miss Ella McFaul, Miss Rose F. Gladfelter.

#### OCTOBER, 1901

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. S. G. Reading, Pastor.—Our former pastor, Rev. J. J. Wicker, closed his pastorate Nov. 1, 1900. In January, 1901, a unanimous call was given to Rev. S. G. Reading, who accepted, and began his pastorate Feb. 1. The spiritual condition of the church is constantly improving. Have adopted a new financial system, which works well. Congregations have increased. Prayer meetings have grown in interest. Have one student for the ministry. Have reorganized a Young People's Society. Pastor and people united and prospects were never brighter.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. S. G. Reading, D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. Thomas Benson, Charles E. Kemp, J. H. Suter, D. H. Watson,

G. R. Berry, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. E. M. Spath, Mrs. D. G. Stevens, Mrs. J. T. Gosnell, Mrs. G. R. Berry, Mrs. J. T. Benson, Miss Lila Ayler, Miss Ella McFaul, Miss Florence Karr, Miss Rose Connolley.

### OCTOBER, 1902

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. S. G. Reading, Pastor.—The past year has been one of surprising experiences characterized by strange apathy on the part of some, hostility to the work and criticism of the workers on the part of others, but a greater devotion to the work by the majority of the working force of the church, to compensate for the falling away of others. In consequence matters have greatly improved. Notwithstanding the hindrances mentioned, our work has been encouraging. Have had good congregations and prayer meetings have been particularly well attended. The various branches of the church work are in good condition and the finances are up to the average at this time of the year despite the untoward conditions named. Improvements amounting to \$800.00 have been made and altogether the general outlook is very encouraging.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. S. G. Reading, Rev. E. R. Carswell, J. C. Blackburn, J. Thos. Benson, D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. H. Suter, J. E. Orem, L. F. Bull, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. G. W. Berry, Mrs. E. M. Spath, Mrs. Mason, Miss Lila Ayler, Miss Ella McFaul.

### OCTOBER, 1903

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. H. C. Risner, Pastor.—We have had a few additions to the church, but owing to the fact that we have until very recently been without a pastor, we have not done much. We held extra meetings with good results, though no additions. Our congregations have increased as well as the interest in the prayer meetings. We use the envelope system with good results. On Oct. 1, Rev. H. C. Risner came into our midst and we think God has sent us such a man who will lead and unite us in a way that will be blessed.

*Delegates to the Association.*—J. H. Suter, D. G. Stevens, Sr., Mrs. Harry Turner, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. W. F. Ambrose, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. Geo. Garrett, Mrs. Edw. Spath, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. Frank Hyson, Mrs. J. T. Benson, Miss Bertha Ambrose, Miss Maggie Steigerwald, Miss Florence Karr.

**OCTOBER, 1904****DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

Rev. H. C. Risner, Pastor.—Spiritual interest very much improved. Extra meetings held last year and fifteen baptisms during the year. Congregations decidedly increased. The pastor was abroad three months visiting the East and, while congregations kept up fairly well while he was away, they have greatly improved since his return. We are looking forward to a successful year.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. H. C. Risner, J. H. Suter, D. G. Stevens, Sr., J. Thomas Benson, J. E. Orem, J. T. Gosnell, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. M. Bunting, Mrs. George Berry, Mrs. J. T. Gosnell, Mrs. William F. Ambrose, Miss Lee McEwen, Mrs. J. E. Arnold.

**OCTOBER, 1905****DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

Our pastor, Rev. H. C. Risner, has left us, but last winter we held extra meetings resulting in 25 baptisms during the year. Spiritual condition very good. Congregations have increased and interest in prayer meetings decidedly so. Use envelope system with fairly good results.

*Delegates to the Association.*—D. G. Stevens, Sr., George Berry, J. H. Suter, Roscoe German, William E. Anthon, Samuel Clark, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. George Berry, Mrs. M. Bunting, Mrs. S. F. Arnold, Mrs. E. Spath, Mrs. E. Moore, Mrs. T. Mason, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Miss F. Karr.

#### OCTOBER, 1906

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. C. C. Cox, Pastor.—Spiritual condition improving. Our extra meetings resulted in nine baptisms. While congregations are about the same, interest in prayer meetings have increased.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. C. C. Cox, D. G. Stevens, Sr., George Berry, J. H. Suter, Roscoe German, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. George Berry, Mrs. M. Bunting, Mrs. T. Mason, Mrs. L. F. Bull, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. W. E. Ambrose, Mrs. C. C. Cox, Mrs. E. Moore, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Miss M. McCleary, Miss Florence Karr, Miss Rose Schreiner.

#### OCTOBER, 1907

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. C. C. Cox, Pastor.—Spiritual condition and attendance on the services have not been what we wished, but the raising of money to

pay off the mortgage has had some effect upon this we believe. We hope that the next year the work will greatly improve. Brother Samuel Clark is our one student for the ministry. Financial condition fairly good.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. C. C. Cox, D. G. Stevens, Sr., Austin J. Arthur, J. E. Orem, Mrs. C. C. Cox, Mrs. J. T. Gosnell, Mrs. George Berry, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. W. E. Ambrose, Mrs. R. Sweetmon, Mrs. E. Moore, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler.

#### OCTOBER 21-23, 1908

#### *Association Meeting With the Hampden Baptist Church.*

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

No pastor. The spiritual condition of the church is fairly good and twenty-five have been added to our roll this year, twenty-four of them by baptism. We held a two weeks' meeting the first of the year which resulted in twenty-two additions to the church. We have one student for the ministry, Brother Samuel S. Clark. We use the envelope system of weekly payments and results are fairly good. We are without a pastor, Brother Cox having resigned on October 1. During the summer we installed a steam-

heating plant instead of the hot-air furnaces and repaired the Sunday School room.

*Delegates to the Association.*—J. H. Suter, D. G. Stevens, Sr., Austin J. Arthur, R. F. Williams, Leonard Winkler, J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. J. T. Gosnell, Miss Florence Karr, Miss Laura Jones, Miss Laura Hyson.

#### OCTOBER, 1909

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. K. A. Handy, Pastor.—Our church is in good condition this year and the prayer meetings show an especial interest. Our congregations have increased this year. A large number of new members have been received by baptism and the future is hopeful. We have one student for the ministry.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. K. A. Handy, Anton Spath, Gilbert H. Norris, Leonard Winkler, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. J. T. Gosnell, Mrs. Leroy Harrison, Mrs. Edward Spath, Mrs. George G. Tyler, Miss M. McCleary, Miss M. Steigerwald, Miss Kate Berry.



OCTOBER, 1910

DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. K. A. Handy, Pastor.—Church thoroughly organized and harmonious. We use the duplex envelopes with excellent results.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. K. A. Handy, Ernest Moore, Herbert Rutledge, J. W. Stiffler, J. E. Orem, A. J. Arthur, J. H. Suter, Mrs. W. F. Ambrose, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. R. Sweetmon, Miss Ella McFaul, Miss M. Steigerwald.

OCTOBER, 1911

DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. K. A. Handy, Pastor.—A harmonious condition prevails and the spiritual development is encouraging. Special meetings were held resulting in additions. Attendance normal. Finances improving. Have one student for the ministry. All departments of the church work are progressing with gaining interest.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. K. A. Handy, E. Spath, A. Spath, J. E. Orem, A. J. Arthur, J. H. Suter, J. W. Stiffler, J. T. Benson, Mrs. E. Spath, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Miss M. Steigerwald.

**OCTOBER, 1912****DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

Rev. K. A. Handy, Pastor.—There has been a general spirit of harmony and co-operation. Special meetings with twenty-nine baptisms; Dr. Fristoe preaching. Congregations normal; increased interest in prayer meetings. One student for the ministry, one ordination during the year. Sunday School graded and reorganized. Nearly all the teachers hold diplomas of the Southern Board for Teacher Training Courses, twenty-three being recently given. All missionary contributions increased.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. K. A. Handy, E. Spath, J. E. Orem, J. T. Benson, J. T. Gosnell, A. J. Arthur, J. H. Suter, L. F. Bull, A. H. Goering, J. W. Stiffler, Carroll D. Jones, Mrs. M. J. Suter, Mrs. J. L. Hubbard, Mrs. E. Eppers, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. Bertha Kelley.

**OCTOBER, 1913****DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

Rev. K. A. Handy, Pastor.—There has been marked signs of growth indicated in a spirit of harmony and willingness to co-operate in service. Extra meetings were held with fourteen

baptisms. One of the most important steps in the history of the church has been the grading of the Bible School and the introduction of the graded lessons. There has been a decided increase in the teaching efficiency and interest in Bible study. Secretary L. O. Leavell, of the Southern Board, conducted Sunday School and Baptist Young People's Union institute with good results. A deacon has conducted most successfully the Pimlico Mission, which now has been put under the care of the First Church. Other conditions about normal.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. K. A. Handy, Anton Spath, J. E. Orem, L. F. Bull, A. H. Goering, J. T. Benson, A. J. Arthur, L. N. Powell, J. T. Gosnell, G. W. Norris, Charles Mark, Charles Green, Robert Williams, E. Vaughan, J. W. Stiffler, Edward Spath, Mrs. E. Spath, Mrs. E. Carroll, Mrs. J. E. Orem.

#### OCTOBER, 1914

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. K. A. Handy, Pastor.—General condition about normal. Special meetings with Dr. Fristoe and Brother Dagan; fifty conversions, with twenty-five baptisms. The work of religious education is developing splendidly in the

Bible School and the societies. About thirty of the members hold diplomas of the Southern Board. Both Bible School and Baptist Young People's Union are near the A-1 standard. We have two students for the ministry.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. K. A. Handy, E. L. Vaughan, L. F. Bull, Rev. A. J. Arthur, A. H. Goering, J. W. Stiffler, Anton Spath, Edward Spath, J. E. Orem, J. T. Benson, J. T. Gosnell, F. D. Pullen, Earle Gross, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. Edward Spath, Mrs. H. G. Hilburn, Mrs. Bertha Kelley.

#### OCTOBER, 1915

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Pastor.—Our former pastor, Rev. K. A. Handy, resigned to take charge of the Sunday School and Baptist Young People's Union work in the State of Maryland. Interest has been maintained. The church is harmonious and busy. The third annual promotion day in the Bible School was most impressive. Rev. Charles T. Hewitt accepted our call to the pastorate, beginning his work October 15, 1915.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Rev. K. A. Handy, A. H. Goering, J. W. Stiffler, J. T. Benson, Mrs. H. G. Hilburn,

Mrs. A. H. Goering, Mrs. Laura Spath, Mrs. M. Bunting, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. K. A. Handy, Miss Carrie Bunting, Miss Oda Bunting, Miss Fern Greene.

OCTOBER, 1916

DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Pastor.—We have remodeled and improved our building and installed electric lights at a cost of \$2,700.00. Membership has increased 110. We have increased the pastor's salary. Bible School and men's class are among the largest in the city. We have two ministerial students at Crozer Seminary.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, J. W. Stiffler, Eugene Parker, Anton Spath, Mrs. C. T. Hewitt, Mrs. H. G. Hilburn, Mrs. A. Spath, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. Laura Spath, Mrs. Charles Mark, Mrs. S. Batchelor, Mrs. E. Parker, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler.

OCTOBER, 1917

DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Pastor.—Report most successful year, with big increase in membership and finances.

*Delegates to the Association.*—J. W. Stiffler, L. M. Powell, Mrs. C. T. Hewitt, Mrs. E. Bassford, Mrs. John Baker, Mrs. M. Bunting, Mrs. H. G. Hilburn, Mrs. L. F. Bull, Miss Lila Ayler, Miss Florence Hillburn, Miss Cora Parks, Miss Carrie Powell.

**NOVEMBER, 1918**

**DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

Rev. Samuel Bower, Assistant Pastor.—The members support the church freely. We are making a good showing on the mortgage which was created for the remodeling of the church.

*Delegates to the Association.*—A. H. Goering, J. W. Stiffler, John Marr, Mrs. E. Bassford, Mrs. Charles Wisner, Mrs. John Baker, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. Charles T. Hewitt, Mrs. Edward Spath, Mrs. A. H. Goering, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. F. D. Pullen, Mrs. N. Swartsbaugh, Miss Ella McFaul, Miss Genevieve Moore, Miss Lila Ayler.

**OCTOBER, 1919**

**DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Pastor.—Our pastor returned from France April 13, 1919, after an absence of fourteen months in the United States Army, serving as chaplain in the 324th Infantry,

2nd Battalion, 81st Division. October 3 the church held a parade and demonstration for the opening of the fall and winter campaign. We had five trucks and thirty-three automobiles filled with scholars of the Sunday School. October 5 was a day of rejoicing, three services being held and large congregations attending. At the evening service the mortgage was burned. Spiritual condition better than it has been for some time.

The Sunday School is growing and the activities along all lines of church work are increasing.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Peter Snellings, J. W. Marr, J. W. Stiffler, A. H. Goering, Mrs. Charles T. Hewitt, Mrs. H. G. Hillburn, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. A. H. Goering, Mrs. Hattie Pullen, Miss Ella McFaul, Miss Lila Ayler, Miss Rose Ayler.

### OCTOBER, 1920

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Pastor.—The church has improved much during the past year. All departments running smoothly, good attendance and enthusiasm. We had a demonstration and parade on September 17 with about 500 in

line. September 19 we started revival services with Rev. Melvin G. Morris as evangelist. Have one student for the ministry.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Albert Turkington, J. H. Suter, Jr., J. E. Orem, William Bunting, Mrs. Charles T. Hewitt, Mrs. E. Spath, Mrs. H. G. Hillburn, Mrs. H. Pullen, Mrs. E. Parker, Mrs. L. F. Bull, Miss M. Noonan.

#### OCTOBER, 1921

##### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Pastor.—Our church has improved during the past year. Attendance at church services, Sunday School and prayer meetings has increased. During the spring revival many souls were saved for Christ. Congregations are large. On May 22, 1921, we had 466 present in Sunday School. Now have three young men studying for the ministry and one young woman left us to study for work in the mission fields.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, Edward Bassford, T. E. Shelton, J. E. Orem, L. F. Bull, Isaac McDonald, Robert Williams, Edward Spath, H. G. Hillburn, Daniel Krout, J. C. Hoshall, J. A. Smith, W. H.



Lake, Mrs. Edward Bassford, Mrs. T. E. Shelton, Mrs. J. E. Orem, Mrs. L. F. Bull, Mrs. Isaac McDonald, Mrs. M. Swartsbaugh, Mrs. J. W. Stiffler, Mrs. H. G. Hillburn, Mrs. Oda Smallwood, Mrs. Edward Spath.

### OCTOBER, 1922

#### DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Report progress, with large increase in attendance at prayer services. Note some decrease in attendance since our pastor left us July 1st. Had 516 at Bible School April 16. Former pastor will return soon. New building fund started for the erection of a church house. Many improvements have been made to our church building. We have five young men studying for the ministry. Spiritual and financial condition excellent, with frequent additions to membership.

*Delegates to the Association.*—J. T. Gosnell, Edward Spath, Jr., J. C. Hoshall, J. W. Stiffler, Edward Bassford, J. H. Suter, Jr., Robert Williams, Isaac McDonald, Mrs. J. T. Gosnell, Mrs. Edward Bassford, Mrs. E. Spath, Mrs. E. Parker, Mrs. M. Bunting, Mrs. Inez H. Fisher, Mrs. Isaac McDonald, Mrs. H. Pullen.

OCTOBER, 1923

## DIGEST OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Hampden — Spiritual condition very good. Financial condition better than ever before. Attendance at all services has improved, especially at the mid-week service. Planning for revival this fall. We have three young men studying to become ministers. Sunday School and all societies are well organized and making good progress—prospects encouraging.

*Delegates to the Association.*—Mrs. Isaac McDonald, Isaac McDonald, T. A. Shelton, William Bunting, Mrs. Edward Spath, Mrs. William Bunting, Mrs. Carrie Smallwood, Mrs. Oda Smallwood, Mrs. M. E. Bunting, Mrs. T. A. Shelton, Mrs. Inez Fisher.